





## NEWS SUMMARY

Eire power cuts  
fear as talks fail

Widespread power cuts are expected across the Irish Republic tomorrow after the failure of talks to avert a three-day strike.

Professor Basil Chubb, the chairman of the employer-labour conference, said yesterday that they had been unable to find a solution to the dispute involving 12,000 workers in the Electricity Supply Board.

Advertisements have already appeared in the Republic's newspapers advising consumers in the event of a strike by workers demanding a 5 per cent pay rise.

The board has offered 3 per cent.

Domestic supplies are likely to be disrupted with cuts lasting for up to four hours and there have been warnings of large scale lay-offs in industry.

Russians not feared  
Cabaret's swansong

More than 80 per cent of people see no great military danger from the Soviet Union, according to a Gallup poll published yesterday.

The poll of 899 people, by Bradford University School of Peace Studies, showed that 50 per cent saw "little or no danger" and 36 per cent saw "no great danger".

Nuclear war caused by accident was feared by 51 per cent of those polled.

Milkmen's offering

Britain's milkmen have given £100,000 to the NSPCC to set up new child protection teams.

The teams will use modern methods of counselling to advise families, social workers and doctors, as well as investigating reports of children at risk.

The gift was received by Princess Margaret on behalf of the NSPCC and came from a £250,000 charity fund collected after the Dairy Council and Kellogg gave 10p for every pack of Christmas cards that milkmen sold.

Political alliance

Emma Nicholson, the Conservative vice-chairman and parliamentary candidate, is to marry nine days after her engagement to avoid any clash with a possible June election.

Miss Nicholson, aged 45, Tory candidate for West Devon, wed Mr Michael Caine, aged 60, on May 9.

"I am convinced there is going to be a June election and we wanted to get married before or after," she said.

Inquiry nearly over

The police inquiry into allegations that an Irish embassy official sold false passports for up to £15,000 each is nearing completion, diplomatic sources said last night.

They also confirmed that the man at the centre of the allegations, Mr Kevin McDonald, passport officer at the Irish embassy in London, had been in regular contact with officials there, through his solicitor, during the inquiry.

Mr McDonald was relieved of his duties last month after allegations that he had sold false passports to customers, including Libyans.

Twins 'quite well'

The Siamese twin boys separated in an operation last week were yesterday progressing quite well in The Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London.

Hassan and Hussein, aged eight months, who come from the Sudan, are on ventilator machines.

Joined face-to-face from the middle of the breast bone to the pelvis, they were separated in a 12-hour operation.

● The condition of Moran Kadosh, aged four, the Israeli girl given a new liver in Cambridge last week, remained stable yesterday.

## Major cuts predicted in arms spending

Major cuts in vital equipment for all three armed services will be inevitable over the next five years, it was predicted yesterday.

A report by Mr Malcolm Chalmers, of Bradford University, said that some programmes would have to be axed, such as the proposed European fighter aircraft.

The report is based on an analysis of government statistics in the supply estimates published this year.

Although the cuts will not be referred to in the defence White Paper, to be published on Wednesday, experts believe that a major review of military spending will have to be carried out by a future government.

Other defence researchers who have examined the government's expenditure figures also believe that there will be a cutback of vital electronic and guidance systems over the next year.

Mr Chalmers says that the two main causes of the future cuts are the cost of Trident and the drop in defence spending.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, has indicated that expenditure on defence over the next three years will be reduced in real terms by 5 per cent. Last year, the Government ended its agreement with Nato partners to increase defence spending by 3 per cent in real terms.

The cost of Trident is estimated to be more than £9 billion. The first submarine is being built and the second is expected to be ordered soon.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, predicted yesterday that the White Paper would be another chapter in the Tories' "hidden manifesto".

He said that it would be a "falsehood" for the Government to claim that it could afford to keep up existing defences.

Labour business managers have served notice on the Government that they want an urgent Commons debate following publication of the defence estimates.

Black rebels  
to rally  
for Atkin's  
return

By Craig Seton

The Labour Party's unofficial black sections will organize national meetings during the general election campaign in support of Miss Sharon Atkin, the black activist ousted last week as Labour candidate for Nottingham East.

After a two and a half hour meeting of the black sections national executive in Birmingham yesterday, its leaders said that the suspension of Miss Atkin for her support of black sections would seriously damage the party in a run-up to the election. They called for Miss Atkin to be reinstated immediately.

The meeting was attended by Miss Linda Bellos, Labour leader of Lambeth Borough Council, who last week repeated the remarks that the Labour Party was racist that had led to Miss Atkin being dropped by the national executive.

But Miss Bellos refused to comment yesterday and shouted at journalists when asked to comment.

In a statement issued after the meeting, the executive said that the suspension was "discriminatory and calculated to ruin Labour's electoral chances among black voters".

Mr Simon Hinds, a spokesman, said that the meetings would probably start in the run-up to the election, but he said the executive still wanted black people to vote for Labour candidates.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, would be invited to speak at some of the meetings to explain his position on racism.

While the meeting was going on Mr Afzal Singh Joughi, general secretary of the Indian Workers Association, issued a statement saying that the organization, which he claimed represented 25,000 people, deplored the replacement of Miss Atkin and regarded it "as an act of racism by the Labour Party".

Four other leading black activists, Mr Paul Boateng, Miss Diane Abbott, Mr Bernie Grant and Mr Russell Proffitt, all Labour parliamentary candidates, were not at yesterday's meeting.

They signed pledges of loyalty to the leadership of Mr Kinnock two weeks ago and have sought to distance themselves from the black sections dispute.

Meanwhile, Mr Kinnock was warned yesterday that black people would be apathetic about supporting Labour at the election. Mr Sam Verma, chairman of the Asian Society in Wales, also said that Miss Atkin was correct in saying there was racism in the Labour Party.

"The way she was sacked by the politburo at the top was quite unfair and undemocratic," Mr Verma said if Mr Kinnock had wanted to discipline someone he should have disciplined Mr Bernie Grant, former leader of Haringey Borough Council.

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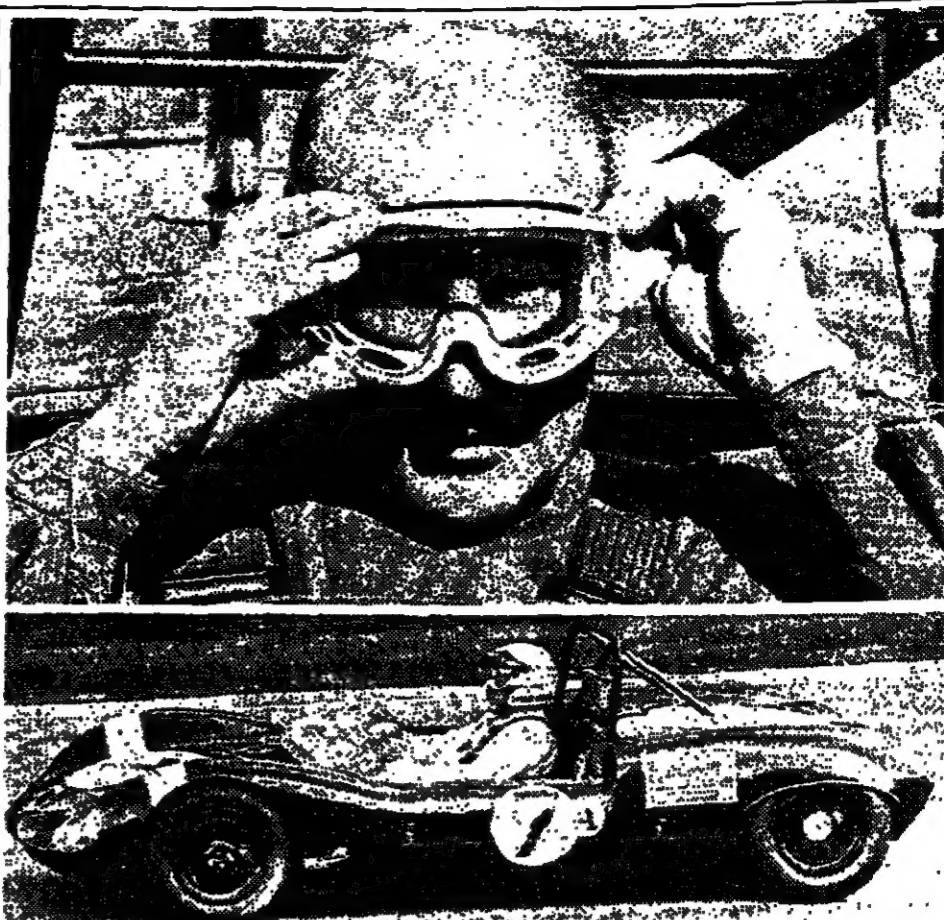
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Stirling Moss, the former motor racing champion, behind the wheel of a 1963 Mk 7 Elva at the Historic Car Races at Brands Hatch, Kent, yesterday (Photograph: Peter Triemer).

## Man held after bomb haul

By Richard Ford

A man was being questioned by detectives last night after the Provisional IRA suffered two setbacks with the death of a "volunteer" and the seizure of a haul of explosives.

The man was detained when the RUC stopped a vehicle pulling a horsebox in Co Antrim and discovered 2,700lb of explosives, one of the largest hauls during the present troubles.

The explosives were packed into plastic bags and hidden in the horsebox which was stopped near Toomebridge in Co Antrim on Saturday afternoon.

Army bomb disposal experts took three hours to make the explosives safe and an RUC spokesman said: "The seizure of the police on this occasion has prevented widespread damage to property and death and injury to members of the community."

The security forces believe the explosives were being moved in preparation for further Provisional IRA bomb attacks across the province.

At the same time as they were being seized a Provisional IRA terrorist died when the bomb he was about to plant exploded prematurely.

Terence McKenna, aged 33, had returned to "active service" with the Belfast group when he was released from prison last June after serving nine years of a 17-year sentence imposed for explosives, arms and ammunition offences.

He was seen carrying two tins into an alleyway near a police station in west Belfast only minutes before the explosion.

A woman who is 36 weeks pregnant was injured in the blast. She was treated in hospital for shrapnel injury. Her husband was also treated for shock and minor injuries.

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Unions  
attack  
Kinnock  
style

By Roland Rudd

Senior trade unionists who say the Labour leadership has got bogged down in "nonsensical constitutional issues" had their belief confirmed yesterday.

The Sunday Times MORI poll showed six out of 10 trade unionists were dissatisfied with the way Mr Neil Kinnock is doing his job as party leader.

General secretaries from the communist-led Tass, to the right-wing electricians' union are drumming out the same message to Mr Kinnock: forget the side issues, concentrate on the main traditional issues.

Mr John Edmonds, the centrist leader of the General and Municipal Workers, asked: "When it is easier under Thatcher's Britain for workers to be sacked with no protection against unfair dismissal than it was in the Philippines under Marcos, why do more people not know that the Labour Party intends to protect all workers from unfair dismissal from the first minute of his employment?"

His answer is simple, the one which strikes at the heart of the unions' dissatisfaction with Mr Kinnock.

The Labour leadership has spent too much time exploring side issues instead of sticking to the issues trade unionists care about. "Stop talking to 20 people," Mr Edmonds said. "Get on with speaking to the 20 million."

Mr Ron Todd, of the transport workers said: "It keeps ducking the major issues. Important as black sections are we should not allow ourselves to get bogged down in the minor issues."

What trade unions want to hear about are Labour's proposals for a million new jobs, a minimum wage, protection against unfair dismissal, the improvement to the health and safety protection and restructuring of training programmes.

"Instead all we hear about are the arguments for and against black sections", another union leader said.

"Somehow we have lost our way. Some of these constitutional issues may be important for the party but are regarded by most working people as totally irrelevant."

The latest MORI poll bears the trade unionists out. Labour's current share of the trade union vote at 38 per cent is only 3 per cent above the Conservatives and still 1 per cent below its appalling 1983 performance.

It is now being taken as axiomatic that if Mr Kinnock cannot get Labour's traditional policies over the dim of the controversy on black sections and other side issues more trade unionists will switch to the Alliance and Conservative parties.

Senior trade unionists are to meet Mr John Prescott, Labour's spokesman on employment, this week to give him more examples of what they see as the misery of workers who lack employment rights.

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Poll backs  
public  
ownership

More people are against further privatization than in favour of it, according to a poll published yesterday.

The poll, conducted by MORI for the Electricity Council, showed that just under 50 per cent of people were in favour of either further nationalization or the Labour Party's concept of social ownership.

Fewer than two out of every five people were in favour of further privatization.

Mr John Lyons, general secretary of the Electrical Power Engineers' Association, claimed that there was more support for nationalization and less for privatization than at any time since 1974.

He added that three separate surveys over the past two years had shown that people wanted the electricity industry to remain in public ownership.

Mr Lyons was speaking for FUSE, the Federation of Unions Supplying Electricity.

Many in Plymouth have taken this as a kick in the teeth after the city's sterling Falk-

lands efforts. They are angry with the Government, and with the apparent lack of opposition of the city's two Conservative MPs, Miss Janet Fookes and Mr Alan Clark, the Minister for Trade.

Thirteen days after the plans were first announced two years ago they replaced 11 of the city's 12 Conservative county councillors with Social Democrats and have since returned two Social Democrats instead of Conservatives in city council by-elections.

Mr Tom Savery, Conservative leader of the city council, concedes that the dockyards will probably cost the party seats although the Conservative administration spent many hours and more

than £100,000 fighting the plans. The moot point is how many and to whom.

The Conservatives hold 33 council seats, Labour 24 and the Alliance three. All 60 are being contested. A net loss of three would end outright Conservative control.

Mr Savery believes the Conservatives will cling on, Labour, unaffected by the extreme left, hopes to gain its first council south-west of Bristol.

The Alliance believes it will gain at least the balance of power in Dr David Owen's home base, thereby giving the party a pre-election fillip throughout the promising Alliance territory of the far South-west.

"In all my time as returning officer in Plymouth I have never known such an open election", Mr Andrew Forbes-Watson, the council's chief executive, says.

Mr Savery doubts whether the dockyards will cost too many votes because many in Plymouth privately acknowledge that the yards, long cosseted, were ripe for a shake-up.

He points to the council's

## Docks issue threatens to oust Tories

By Martin Fletcher

Political Reporter

The "Falklands factor" helped Conservatives everywhere in the 1983 local elections, but probably nowhere more so than in Plymouth, the city whose Devonport dockyards had done so much to dispatch the task force the previous year.

On Thursday the Conservatives returned to power then must stand for re-election, but this time the dockyards, the biggest in western Europe and Plymouth's largest employer, could prove the factor which ends 21 years of Conservative rule in Plymouth.

Last month the Government handed management of the yards over to private contractors, thereby ending more than three centuries of service to the crown and paving the way for somewhere between 2,000 and 6,000 job losses among the 11,000 workforce. This in a city where unemployment is already 15 per cent.

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# Extra charge by hospitals 'could affect patient care'

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

The National Association of Health Authorities has criticised teaching districts for refusing to treat patients from other authorities unless they receive extra payments.

In a consultation document due to be issued in the next two weeks, the association says that unilateral cross-charging could affect the care of individual patients needing specialist treatment.

If health authorities did wish to impose charges that should be done only with prior negotiation between authorities, the association says.

"Districts should not unilaterally begin to charge or refuse to treat other patients. The first priority should always be the patient. To stop or bill a district or refuse to treat a patient is not reconcilable with that aim", Mr John Cook, senior research assistant with the association, said.

Cross-charging is at present mainly confined to teaching districts, particularly in London, who claim that they are not sufficiently reimbursed for GP referrals from outside their catchment area.

City and Hackney Health Authority in east London is now refusing to take patients needing kidney stones treated by a lithotripter unless the referring district guarantees payment for the £500 procedure.

It is also charging for treatment for certain stomach disorders at St Bartholomew's Hospital.

Eighty per cent of St Bartholomew's admissions come from referring districts and last week the hospitals announced that it was cutting by 225 a month the number of patients treated, because of a cash crisis.

Lewisham and North Southwark district, also in financial difficulties, is charging patients from outside the district for pacemakers inserted at Guy's Hospital. Under the present funding system health authorities do not charge each other but are reimbursed for patients from other districts two years in arrears, based on the national

average cost for the case. They are not reimbursed for outpatient or day patient treatment.

Some teaching hospitals have argued that the costs are often well over the national average, but the association says that there is little evidence to support this.

"Some of the costs are lower than the national average which usually balances out the total", Mr Cook said.

While not dismissing the idea of cross-charging, the association says that a centrally imposed internal market, where health authorities could both buy and sell from each other and from the private sector, would be difficult to implement.

The Government is adopting a laissez-faire approach to cross-charging and has so far not intervened.

A psychiatric hospital has launched an internal inquiry after 200 confidential medical records were found near a rubbish dump on the hospital site.

The records, which disclose names and addresses and the clinical and diagnostic conditions of former patients at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, Shrewsbury, were found loose on a grass verge by the dump.

Mr David Sandbach, the hospital administrator, said that the documents related to psychiatric patients who had been at the hospital between 1951 and 1953.

He said: "The documents should not have been there. We have a policy of not throwing away our documents and they were all locked away in the basement of the main hospital."

Mr Sandbach said that whoever removed the documents had no authorization to do so. The basement was now locked and there was no evidence of a break in, he said. "We are currently carrying out an internal inquiry as to how they got there."

Under present regulations all medical records have to be kept for at least three years and then are usually stored for a further eight years.



Mr David Mercer (left), who is unemployed, starting the "Hands Across Britain" line that included (centre) Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, and ended with Mr Gerry Bothwell (right), unemployed, in Highbury Fields, London.

## Concorde flight in near-hit

A Concorde avoided a crash with a second aircraft by just 800 yards, the Civil Aviation Authority disclosed yesterday.

The near-accident happened on April 24 when the aircraft were four minutes flying time from Heathrow, over Woodley, near Reading in Berkshire.

The Concorde, British Airways flight 001 to New York, which was climbing to 3,000 feet, was narrowly missed by a twin-engine Otter aircraft on a Brynmor Airways scheduled flight from Birmingham to Gatwick.

The incident came after complaints by air traffic controllers at Heathrow and at West Drayton in Middlesex that they were overworked.

Mr Gareth Gimblett, a Berkshire county councillor, said: "There will be a disaster unless something is done, like the one over Los Angeles where there was actually a collision between a light aircraft and a plane. There is an increasing amount of light aircraft movement in this area."

The Civil Aviation Authority said that both planes were under the direction of air traffic controllers. "A full inquiry will be held", a spokesman said.

Accident investigators examining the crash of a Bell helicopter in the North Sea in 1984 with the loss of two crewmen have reported that they cannot discover the cause because the "black box" flight recorder was not fitted (Our Air Correspondent writes).

Helicopters do not carry a flight recorder and the accident investigators have said they want them fitted as a matter of urgency. The CAA is supporting the call and is pressing the electronics industry to devise a suitable fitting.

The investigators say they cannot be certain, but believe that the helicopter's rotor speed dropped sharply as the pilot increased engine power to no avail. The rotor subsequently hit the side of the Bristol craft and it plunged into the sea.

## Petrol pipe leaks

### Crisis at the pumps feared

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Motorists may face serious disruption to petrol supplies, according to the Petrol Retailers' Association.

It issued its warning after the discovery that the pipework under thousands of filling stations is deteriorating.

The association has been told by its members that petrol now being produced with a lower lead content, and the new range of unleaded petrols, may be attacking pipe seals in the lines from underground tanks to the pumps.

Many petrol station operators have noticed the problem when it causes a drop in the pressure to the forecourt pumps.

The seals are made from a plastic compound which was introduced 10 years ago.

Experience in Europe showed the oil companies that as unleaded and low lead petrols were introduced, the previous jointing compound could not withstand the corrosive effects of petrol with less added lead.

Filling station owners be-

lieve that the problem has been worsened as petrol now being produced from the more modern refineries is made to tighter specifications with precisely the designed amount of lead added.

Previously petrol was being delivered to a higher quality than actually specified.

New additives designed to improve performance are also being blamed by some retailers.

It is not clear whether the problem is confined to pipework which uses the new sealing or whether it applies to the old jointing compound as well.

The Institute of Petroleum is looking into the problem and the Petroleum Retailers' Association has called for a full investigation.

Mr Bruce Petter, the association's director, said: "Whatever is causing the leakages is also causing alarm among petrol retailers since it threatens a loss of business if

the forecourts have to close down in order that underground storage systems be excavated. "We are urging an industry-wide investigation and will be discussing the problems at a series of meetings throughout the country with our members."

Mr Petter added yesterday that 14 sites have been closed for excavations and pipe joints are being tested, but as yet the cause of the leaks has not been confirmed.

He said: "If it is what we think it is that is causing the problem it could affect 20 per cent of the filling stations in the country."

The association represents 7,000 of Britain's 18,000 filling station operators.

BP said yesterday that its engineers have been aware of problems affecting certain filling stations, but added that all its outlets - BP has about 17 per cent of the total petrol market - have been checked in the past week and no problems found.

## Biology of the sexes

### Short clue to origins of man

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

What is a man? Scientists are on the verge of identifying the molecules which separate the boys from the girls.

Like many additions to basic scientific knowledge, the answer depends on an accidental discovery.

The clue was found by a medical team working with Professor M A Ferguson-Smith at the Department of Medical Genetics of the Duncan Guthrie Institute of Glasgow University.

Their latest finding, which is stirring great excitement among doctors and scientists, concerns an active and healthy man aged 21.

He became a patient of the centre because he was too short - a condition that could be caused by a hormone deficiency.

Professor Ferguson-Smith's group employed a new method of analysing the man's chromosomes, the 46 thread-like strands in every cell of the body that contain a biochemical "identity card" of the individual.

Until now, the extent of understanding of what separated the sexuality of man from woman rested on two of these chromosomes, called the sex-chromosomes and given the names XY in the male and XX in the female.

Abnormalities of the sex chromosomes are known to be the cause of inherited diseases, one of which is called Turner's syndrome. It can happen only in females, because the male Y chromosome is missing.

Yet when the young Glas-

wegian's chromosomes were examined under the microscope, they showed the pattern of Turner's syndrome.

So baffled doctors could not explain why he was a man. After months of scrutiny, employing new laser analysis methods, the scientists detected the remnants of a Y chromosome.

The remnant seemed, by chance, to be the portion containing the set of molecules carrying the biochemical code for maleness.

In reporting the event to a meeting of the Royal Society, Professor Ferguson-Smith said that molecular biologists would attempt to isolate the fragment to decode its exact chemical make-up, and hence the identity of the genes which make man.

## First black Grenadier in training

A black recruit is undergoing training to become a Grenadier Guardsman for the first time in the brigade's history, it is believed.

Algermon Stokes, aged 17, is months away from earning the coveted bearskin and from going on royal guard duty.

His recruitment comes after comments attributed to the Prince of Wales last year criticizing the apparent colour bar in the Brigade of Guards.

The Prince, Colonel in Chief of the Welsh Guards, expressed his concern to the Army at the lack of black soldiers at ceremonial occasions.

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, carried out a survey after his intervention, to find out how many people from ethnic minorities were serving in the British Army. The results are still unknown.

Mr Stokes is thought to be the first black person to be trained for the Guards, although there are thought to be several Asian guardsmen.

He was taken on six months ago at his local Army office in Wolverhampton and is now being trained at the Guards' Depot in Pirbright, Surrey.

He has several O levels and so was enlisted as a Junior Leader - the Guards' first stream - and is likely to become a non-commissioned officer.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman refused to say whether the Guards had followed the Prince's advice to recruit from ethnic minorities.

He said: "I can only confirm that we have a Guardsman Stokes at Pirbright. We do not have records of their ethnic backgrounds. The Guards have several people from ethnic minorities."

Buckingham Palace refused to comment.

Senior officers in the Grenadier Guards were said to be angry at the publicity.

Police have launched an internal investigation after a young black officer left the force because of what was alleged to be a racist campaign.

Mr Nick Booth, a former police constable of Bradford Moor, Bradford, West Yorkshire, says that the last straw came when he was forced to take part in degrading sexual acts.

He is taking West Yorkshire police to an industrial tribunal claiming constructive dismissal.

West Yorkshire Police last night said they were aware that former constable Booth had made an application to an industrial tribunal alleging constructive dismissal. They added: "It is not possible to comment further at this stage."

## Portfolio Gold Student collects £8,000

Mr James Ball, a postgraduate physics student, was the sole winner of the weekly Portfolio Gold dividend of £8,000.

Mr Ball, of south-east London, has been a reader of The Times for about 18 months and has played Portfolio Gold regularly.

He said yesterday he still had no idea how he would spend his prize money.

Nobody claimed the daily £4,000 prize.

Readers can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

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## Driver in debt returns to find home emptied

A long-distance lorry driver arrived home from a trip to the Middle East to find his house stripped bare.

Mr John Croxon at first assumed burglars were responsible for breaking down the door and taking his furniture and belongings worth more than £2,000.

But then he discovered council bailiffs had emptied the house because he owed £242 in rates.

Mr Croxon, of Dowding Way, Churchdown, Gloucester, said he had overlooked the rates bill and had no idea bailiffs might call while he was on a long trip to the Middle East.

Mr Ron Wheeler, chief executive of Tewkesbury Borough Council, said yesterday: "The bailiffs called four times to warn Mr Croxon they were entitled to seize his possessions."

"But he was never there and eventually they went in to collect property which could be auctioned to recover the debt."

"Any items left over after we have raised the outstanding £242 will be returned to Mr Croxon."

## BR to charge for timetables

British Rail is to charge passengers on its Network SouthEast 20p for a copy of its new timetable.

The move is designed to save the network more than £750,000.

British Rail says that many passengers throw the timetables away.

Last year, more than five-and-a-half million were printed but because of the 20p charge, the print run has been cut by more than two million.

## Ordeal for yachtsman

A man who sold his house to buy a yacht and go on the voyage of a lifetime was recovering yesterday after he had to abandon ship off north Cornwall and spent eight hours on a life raft.

Mr Ron Taylor, aged 45, from Liverpool, who had been bound for Gibraltar, was found, suffering from hypothermia, by the Padstow lifeboat. His 27ft sloop Mazuma is thought to have sunk.

## Lonrho sues Khashoggi

Adnan Khashoggi, the Saudi Arabian financier, is being sued by Lonrho, the international conglomerate, over a loan.

Lonrho is claiming £723,000, and interest at £180 a day. It says in a High Court writ that it lent the money to Mr Khashoggi in October 1985 and that he has broken an agreement to make payments of principal and interest.

## 'Smart' air ticket is on the way

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

An improved air ticket for the 1990s is being studied by airline chiefs.

The new "hi-tech" card would act as both a ticket and a boarding card, be secure from fraud and allow the passenger to pass through all airport checks by slipping it into a "reading" machine.

The International Air Transport Association is looking at a range of new tickets, known as "smart cards".

"We sell well over 300 million airline tickets a year", a spokesman for the association said yesterday.

"The present technology would enable us to go straight to a magnetic strip ticket but we must now look at whether we should jump a whole technological generation and go straight for a 'smart card' or a laser card."

A "smart card" is made of plastic with a micro-chip embedded into it.

It could be programmed to tell a check-in computer how the ticket was paid for, whether the passenger prefers smoking or non-smoking seats, whether he has any connections to make and it would then be used to pass through customs.

## Doubt on hair restorer

Doctors are giving warnings that a new treatment for baldness is expensive and produces satisfactory results in only a small proportion of users.

The lotion, called Rogaine, made by Upjohn, has been widely reported as a remedy.

Doctors in London and The Netherlands agree that the drug can induce hair growth. But, writing in The Lancet, they add that a "cosmetically satisfactory result is achieved in only a small proportion of users".

At Upjohn, nobody was available for comment.

## Kitchens take lion's share of furniture market

By Teresa Poole, Business Correspondent

The Scots buy less of it, childless couples spend most on it, and the 25-34 age group prefers to assemble it themselves.

These are some of the findings of an analysis of the £3.7 billion furniture market which has discovered that the British bought 3,000,000 armchairs in 1986, tend to opt for beige or brown upholstery and prefer an oval or rectangular shape for kitchen and coffee tables.

Last year kitchen storage took the largest slice of the market with sales worth £1.2 billion, followed by upholstery with £1 billion. The combined sales of beds and bedroom storage reached nearly £900 million.

Furniture spending habits demonstrate both regional and demographic trends. The highest spenders were the 25-44 age and AB social groups who each spent between £270 and £300 on furniture. Childless couples in the 25-34 age range topped the rankings

with average spending of £456. Scottish customers were the lowest spenders with an average of £156 compared with £206 for those in the South-east, while Midlands shoppers spent more on bedroom storage than anywhere else in the UK.

In the bedroom, one third of the 3,850,000 beds, mattresses and headboards bought in 1986 were doubles.

In the kitchen, three-quarters of the total spent on kitchen storage last year was on complete fitted kitchens,

and professionally assembled systems accounted for more than half the purchases of kitchen storage.

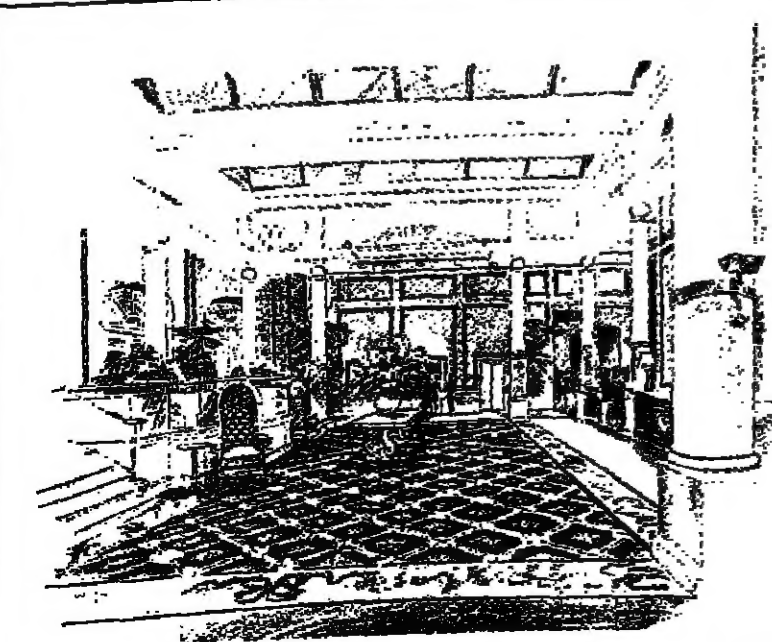
The tables and chairs market was worth £362 million, with beige and brown upholstery accounting for about 45 per cent of sales.

According to the analysis, published by Textile Market Studies, an independent market research company, the retail market leader is MFI with 12 per cent of furniture sales, followed by Harris Queensway at 9 per cent.

The dominant retailer in the upholstery sector is Harris Queensway with 16 per cent of the market.

Retail sales in the other household markets include £1.4 billion on household textiles, £1.3 billion on floor-coverings, £250 million on lighting and £190 million on ceramic tableware and dinnerware.

The TMS survey was based on interviews with 14,500 women in their homes throughout Britain using a statistically weighted sample.



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## Chaos predicted this week

## Pay disputes by court staff threaten double disruption

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Courts throughout London and the South-east, including the Central Criminal Court and the High Court in the Strand, will face widespread disruption this week when 3,500 court staff are called out on strike over pay claims.

The disruption, which threatens to bring the system to a virtual standstill in some places, will be particularly acute because action is being taken by the unions representing the courts' staff in the same week on two separate, unrelated pay claims.

First the rolling programme of strike action over this year's pay offer by the Society of Civil and Public Servants and the Civil and Public Services

Association hits the South-east region this week, the largest of the circuits administered by the Lord Chancellor's Department.

A two-day stoppage for Thursday and Friday is planned for the region which will hit the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand, and the Central Criminal Court among a number of other big court centres.

Mr Frank Campbell, National Officer for the CPSA, said: "On the basis of the disruption caused in previous weeks in Leeds, Sheffield, Liverpool and Newcastle it is likely we will effectively stop the running of the courts for these two days".

The unions, who represent court staff including bailiffs, ushers, court clerks and administrators, are taking industrial action over this year's 4.6 per cent pay offer. They want 15 per cent or £20 a week, whichever is the greater.

At the same time as that action hits the South-east, the two unions are intensifying their campaign of strike action by their 800 members employed in the magistrates' court in inner London.

The action is over last year's pay claim, in which the unions' employer, the Committee of Magistrates in the inner London courts, agreed a settlement of an 8 per cent rise. However the Home Office,

the unions' paymaster, agreed to authorize only a 5.96 per cent increase.

In the past two weeks magistrates' court staff have been called out on selective one-day stoppages.

Mr Campbell said: "The response to these one-day strikes has been marvellous. We set out to show management the strength of the members' feelings and to disrupt the running of the courts and we have succeeded in doing both. This week I predict there will be chaos in the three courts targeted for action."

There may also be industrial action next week by lawyers in the crown prosecution service.

The First Division Association, which represents them, is meeting to decide on Wednesday whether to recommend acceptance of a Treasury offer of extra London weighting, backdated to April 1.

The offer of an extra £1,000, £1,500 or £2,000, depending on grade, is on top of the present £1,465 weighting, and is an attempt to counteract the severe shortage of prosecution lawyers in London.



A 1926 steam-driven Sentinel Saper Wagon showing old-fashioned staying power yesterday as it pulled a trailer loaded with 40 sacks of coal in the twenty-sixth London to Brighton run organized by the Historic Commercial Vehicle Society. On its way it passed a more modern car, broken down on the A23 at Crawley, West Sussex. (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

## Out-of-town shops 'threaten trade'

By a Staff Reporter

Many shopping centres are under threat from "mushrooming" out-of-town developments, Mr Robert Millett, president of the National Chamber of Trade, said yesterday.

His comments came at the chamber's annual meeting in Hull, Humberside, which is due today to debate two

motions aimed at curbing out-of-town developments.

Mr Millett said: "The retail trade is changing beyond recognition. Out-of-town shopping developments are mushrooming everywhere."

He said that floor space for planned peripheral developments increased from 25.3 million sq ft in March 1986 to

61 million sq ft by the end of the year.

"The effect on existing town centre investment is not difficult to imagine", Mr Millett added.

He said that behind the picture of a buoyant retail sector, "sales are more and more concentrated in fewer hands".

## Spring sun brightens the year for zoos

By Ruth Gledhill

London Zoo is celebrating its best spring for 15 years with the number of visitors up 160 per cent on April of last year.

But attendances at both London and Whipsnade zoos during the past financial year are 4.2 per cent down on the previous 12 months.

In the first four weeks of April this year, 185,000 visitors flocked through London zoo gates and another 67,000 visited Whipsnade in Bedfordshire.

That compares with 72,000 in April last year for London zoo and 18,000 for Whipsnade.

The slight reduction in gate receipts last year has been offset by an increase in revenue from retailing and catering.

The improvement in this year's attendances is because of the timing of the school holidays, the spring weather and the new daily bus service to the zoo from Baker Street and the weekend service from Westminster.

The recovery began shortly after July last year, when "austere summer weather" reduced attendances by 11 per cent.

The Zoological Society of London, which runs both zoos, is expected to show comparable and possibly better results than last year's annual report, due out in the autumn. Last year the society made £278,000 in the 15 months to the end of March.

A firm of consultants is to be appointed jointly by the society and the Government to examine ways of raising new capital.

Fifteen firms have been invited to tender.

Two rare hornbills being sold as "banana-eating doves" in a back-street shop in Brunei have been rescued and are now in quarantine at London Zoo.

The 30-inch high black and white Southern Pied Hornbills, seen starving and close to death by Mrs Valerie Andrews, were accepted by London Zoo because of the "exceptional circumstances".

"We would not have taken them if they had come from the wild, Mr Peter Olney, curator of birds, said.

Harry and Jo, aged about three months, are believed to be two of just four of their breed in this country, Mr Olney said.

If the couple, which are believed to have "pair-bonded" successfully, succeed in producing chicks they will be the country's only breeding pair, he added.

## Scheme to cut prison population

By a Staff Reporter

More effective liaison between probation officers and social workers could greatly reduce prison overcrowding, according to a report from the Prison Reform Trust, published today.

Mr Stephen Shaw, the trust's director, said yesterday: "Dramatic reductions in the use of imprisonment are possible when voluntary or statutory services effectively target their activities."

"Working together, magistrates, the local authority and a voluntary agency have turned Basingstoke into a custody-free zone so far as juveniles are concerned."

"There seems little reason to believe that this signal achievement could not be matched throughout the country."

The report details six successful schemes. There is an Alternative (The Prison Reform Trust, 59 Caledonian Road, London N1 9BU; £4.95).

## Repairs restart on road to airport

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Motorists using the M1 near Luton will find their return from holiday tomorrow greeted by a resumption of repair works which will last until the autumn and are expected to cause delays.

The works will take place between junctions 9 and 10 under a £5.5 million contract awarded to Balfour Beatty. Preliminary works were completed at the end of March and the works were held back until after the Easter holiday period, but will now continue until September.

The Department of Transport has particularly warned travellers catching planes at Luton airport to allow extra time to make connections. Roadworks until next Monday:

## London and South-east

M2/A2 Kent: Lane restrictions at Cobham intersection. M20 Kent: Contraflow between junctions 7 and 8 (Maidstone/A20); lane restrictions and 60mph limits, barrier work between junctions 9 and 11 (Ashford/Hythe). M11 London: New road layout and reconstruction work, Redbridge roundabout.

M25 Essex: Widening work at junction 31 roundabout (Grays), below motorway.

M25 Surrey: Gantry work means lane closures between junctions 7 and 8 (M23/Reigate).

M27 Hampshire: Flyover construction between junction with M27 and Rudmore roundabout, Portsmouth.

M1 Hertfordshire/Bedfordshire: Second stage of roadworks between junctions 9 and 10 (Harpenden/Luton) starts tomorrow. There will be no slip road closures until May 16.

## Midlands

M1 Warwickshire: Lane closures in both directions at junction 19 (M6).

M5 Hereford and Worcester: One lane open southbound and two northbound between junctions 5 and 6 (Droitwich/Worcester north). Also southbound entry slip at junction 5 and southbound exit slip at junction 6 closed.

M5 West Midlands: Lane restrictions and some overnight carriageway closures between junctions 4 and 8 (Bromsgrove/M50 South Wales).

A38(M) West Midlands: Aston expressway: Lane restrictions.

Information compiled and supplied by AA Roadwatch



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Monthly Payments	£ 78.03	£ 95.19
Charge for Credit	£ 0.00	£ 411.84
Total Amount Payable	£4,682.31	£5,094.15
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## Pressure grows over MI5 'plot'

# Doubts on Wilson's friends root of security inquiries

By Paul Valley

Charges and counter-charges over an alleged plot within MI5 to undermine the governments of Harold Wilson and Edward Heath have clogged the columns of the British Press in the past seven days.

Controversy has arisen since details were first published of the claims contained in Peter Wright's book, *Spycatcher*, which the Government is seeking to suppress through legal action in Australia.

Some of the reports, such as the one that the Duke of Edinburgh flew a spy helicopter over the Soviet Embassy in London, strain credibility.

Most of the other accounts are speculative or at best circumstantial. But collectively they may well increase the mounting pressure on the Government to hold an inquiry.

Mr Wright's allegations and those of the complementary press reporting centre on a politically motivated and treasonable conspiracy by 30 MI5 officers to force Harold Wilson from office by leaking embarrassing security reports, some fictitious, to right-wing Fleet Street journalists and union officials.

The plot was then allegedly extended to Edward Heath's government in an attempt to subvert its conciliatory policy in Northern Ireland which included plans to abolish Stormont.

The present Government has refused to set up a new inquiry.

Mr Margaret Thatcher has repeatedly taken refuge in the fact that in 1977 the Callaghan administration said it had conducted "detailed inquiries into the recent allegations about the security service and is satisfied that they do not constitute grounds for lack of confidence in the competence and impartiality of the security service or for instituting a special inquiry".

Although Harold Wilson (now Lord Wilson of Rievaulx) and Sir James Callaghan are remaining silent on the substance of the matter other senior Labour politicians are pressing for a new investigation.

Mr Merlyn Rees, then home secretary, has disclosed that the 1977 investigation was only into the narrow issue of whether Mr Wilson's offices had been bugged.

The wider implications of Mr Wright's allegations were outside the scope of that review, he has said.

Yesterday Lord Glenamara, formerly Mr Edward Short, the deputy leader of the Labour Party, also called for an inquiry.

He said that in the light of Mr Wright's book he was convinced that two burglaries on his flat in London in 1974 were carried out by MI5.

The Prime Minister's principal private secretary, Mr Michael Halls, his personal and political secretary, Lady Falkender, and his office manager, Mr Tony Field, were also bugged, presumably by MI5. Mr Wilson himself was bugged eight times, he was reported as saying.

The origins of the conspiracy are said to lie with an attempt in the early 1960s by right-wing sections of the Labour Party to use the security services to obtain information to discredit individuals on the left of the party.

A committee under the then Mr George Brown is claimed

to have authorized the launch of an MI5 investigation into East European contacts of the left.

Boistered by a series of reports from Soviet-block defectors who made repeated allegations of KGB influence among the Labour left and in particular among the personal friends and political allies of Harold Wilson, MI5 responded enthusiastically.

It was particularly suspicious of Joseph Kagan (later ennobled in Mr Wilson's controversial resignation honours list) who had fled from eastern Europe after the Second World War.

Other suspects are reported to include Rudy Sternberg (the late Lord Flarenden), a

ports seems to have varied wildly.

One unsubstantiated report from the American Central Intelligence Agency, which had also been involved, even suggested that Harold Wilson himself had been a Soviet agent.

Such a claim has now been derided by almost all informed participants but the fact that it was seriously entertained is an indication of the atmosphere in which the conspiracy was said to be conducted.

Some apologists for MI5, while conceding the veracity of some such activity, claim that it was intended not to undermine Mr Wilson but to save him from his own lack of judgement in selecting the company he kept.

Mr Wright was an assistant director of MI5 and at one time the personal consultant to the head of the organization on counter-espionage. But in his early days he was a scientific adviser to the service.

His first contact with the issue was said to have been a visit to Porton Down to investigate the viability of claims that the former Labour leader, Hugh Gaitskill, who had died suddenly, had been assassinated by the KGB to free the leadership post for the left-wing Harold Wilson.

Mr Wilson had already made 19 visits to the Soviet Union, many as the employee of a timber importer after he left the Board of Trade in the Clement Attlee government.

The results were inconclusive and the MI5 investigation which continued was intensified when the prime minister tried to appoint an outsider as head of MI5 instead of the usual inside candidate.

Mr Wright's central allegation is understood to be that in 1973 a small group with direct links to the upper echelons of the Conservative Party approached him requesting leaks from the MI5 files on Harold Wilson and the Labour Party.

They were looking for damaging reports to leak to the media, right-wing trade unionists and Conservative MPs.

Two of these names are still so secret that they do not even appear in the copies of Mr Wright's manuscript which have circulated secretly in Britain.

But it is claimed that the Conservative MP, Mr Airey Neave, who was later a key figure in Mrs Thatcher's election as party leader, was involved along with a number of dissident senior Army officers.

That politically motivated plot is said to have been extended to the subsequent Heath government which, parts of MI5 felt, according to an agent quoted in one newspaper, was "weak, wet and beyond redemption".

The plan was to secure a hard-line right wing government. An attempt was made to smear Mr Heath when MI5 agents tried to persuade a Czech defector to claim that a homosexual Czech agent had been set to "betray" the Conservative prime minister on a visit to Prague.

The contents of files on Mr Heath's security adviser, Lord Rothschild, also began to be leaked, with the veiled allegation that he too was subject to KGB influence.

It is said that Mr Heath is considering making a public statement.

## Crimes and treason claims by Wright

Among the allegations which Mr Peter Wright, author of *Spycatcher*, apparently details, include 23 crimes and 12 acts of treason, are claims that:

● MI5 officers illegally conducted telephone tapping and letter interception.

● Among the victims were said to be Harold Wilson, his secretary, Lady Falkender, his lawyer, Lord Goodman, and his senior policy adviser, Mr Bernard Donoghue.

● An unsuccessful attempt was made to lure a Labour minister, Mr Tony Benn, into a sex scandal and to fabricate documents which indicated that Mr Edward Short had substantial funds in an illicit Swiss bank account.

● MI5 agents infiltrated the Ulster Defence Association and in 1974 fomented a general strike to destroy the Government's new power-sharing scheme.

It also manufactured false bank statements to imply that the Rev Ian Paisley and Mr John Hume, of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, were lining their pockets from party funds.

● A compromising MI5 file on the relationship between the Liberal leader, Mr Jeremy Thorpe, and his friend, Mr Norman Scott, was leaked to Conservative Central Office (where Lord Carrington subsequently dismissed it).

● Masonic and "old boy" networks consistently organized cover-ups within the service.

But given the present attitude of Mrs Thatcher, who seems determined that no inquiry will take place, whether any or all of these allegations is warranted may never be known.

businessman with wide contacts in East Germany; Sigmund Sternberg, a Hungarian emigre who made a fortune in scrap metal; Frank Schon, an Austrian-Jewish businessman (also ennobled and who later offered Lord Wilson a place on his payroll); Stephen Swinger, a left-wing Labour MP who Barbara Castle's diaries recorded as "dabbling in East Europe too much"; Niall McDermott, a junior minister who left his wife for a Russian girl in Geneva; John Stonehouse, who was named by a Czech defector in 1969 and who later faked his own suicide, and Bernard Floud, who after MI5 questioning for security clearance as a junior minister gassed himself.

The reliability of such reports seems to have varied wildly.

One unsubstantiated report from the American Central Intelligence Agency, which had also been involved, even suggested that Harold Wilson himself had been a Soviet agent.

Such a claim has now been derided by almost all informed participants but the fact that it was seriously entertained is an indication of the atmosphere in which the conspiracy was said to be conducted.

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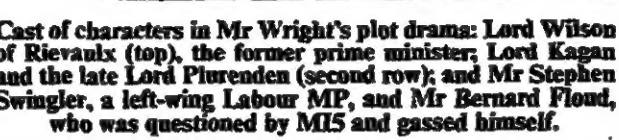
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Cast of characters in Mr Wright's plot drama: Lord Wilson of Rievaulx (top), the former prime minister; Lord Kagan and the late Lord Flarenden (second row); and Mr Stephen Swinger, a left-wing Labour MP, and Mr Bernard Floud, who was questioned by MI5 and gassed himself.

## European car market: 1

# Fierce battle with Japanese over low-cost production

Record sales of 11.5 million cars last year offered Europe's car industry a brief respite from problems caused by its capacity to produce up to two million more cars than it can sell.

But over capacity will not go away and competition in Europe has become fiercer than ever.

The Japanese are the relentless driving force behind the competition, with low-cost production their vital weapon.

Nissan cars are built in Sunderland for at least £200 a car less than British rivals can achieve and, in Japan, companies are redoubling their efforts to cut production costs even further.

The key factors emerging in Europe are:

● The Japanese yen has strengthened against the dollar by 30 per cent in the past 16 months. Honda is preparing for the currency shift to push the yen even higher - 40 per cent above the dollar - and plans to cut production costs accordingly.

● The stronger yen makes the American and British plants established by the Japanese more profitable than originally planned.

Honda's plant in the United States can build cars more cheaply than Japan, but the sharp rise in overseas produc-

tion means Japan has a growing surplus of cars it must export.

With America limiting Japanese imports to 2.3 million for another year, and demand falling in the Asian markets, the large European market is a natural target.

● In Europe, West Germany is most vulnerable to Japanese penetration. The yen has increased in value by only 5 per cent against the Deutschmark, compared with 19 per cent against the pound. Germany is a large, free from import restrictions market for the Japanese.

In 1986, they increased sales by 30 per cent and secured a 15 per cent market share there.

It means European car makers must reduce costs if they are to repel the Japanese competition.

As Nissans and Hondas begin to roll off UK production lines, soon to be sold in Europe as British-built and free from import restrictions, so the pressure on volume car makers becomes fiercer.

Volkswagen already buys components from as far afield as Canada.

Opel, however, is committed to "not walk away from its traditional German suppliers". Mr Ferdinand Beickler, who is in charge of General Motors' European operation, concedes that "at the moment we are not very cost competitive".

A study by Ford discloses that Fiat and Nissan in Sunderland are the lowest cost producers in Europe.

Already Ford, Volkswagen and General Motors build their small cars in Spain, where costs are lower.

However, the cost base in Europe is too high for the viable production of new mini or basic transport cars such as the Citroen 2CV or Fiat 126.

Fiat aims to let the Poles build its Topolino model and Citroen is moving 2CV production to Portugal, where labour costs are equal to those in Korea.

Tomorrow: The "upmarket" battle.

## Mention of race 'not irrelevant'

The Press Council has rejected a complaint against a newspaper which mentioned the race of an Indian film actor jailed on drug charges.

The Daily Telegraph reported that Anand Roy, aged 29, of Lissenden Grove, Kentish Town, London, was jailed for 12 years after he had tried to sell heroin worth more than £2 million to an undercover police officer at Brent Cross.

The report said that a second man was jailed for nine years on a conspiracy charge with Roy, but a third man was acquitted.

Mr Robert Borzello, of Camden Passage, London, complained that the newspaper reported the race of a man jailed for conspiracy when it was not relevant.

The council's adjudication was: "The fact that a man

jailed for 12 years for conspiracy was a very well-known Indian film actor was relevant to the story of his conviction after an alleged attempt to sell heroin.

"It was not improper of a newspaper reporting the conviction to identify him in this way."

"The complaint against The Daily Telegraph is rejected."

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## Highlands land-use survey

# Tree peril for golden eagles

Britain's golden eagles are menaced by an ever increasing enemy on the ground: too many trees.

Blanket afforestation is judged the main long-term threat in Britain to the golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), one of the largest and most spectacular birds of prey in Europe.

The Nature Conservancy Council has drawn that and other conclusions after a four-year investigation into the impact of land-use changes on the species.

More than 100 breeding pairs, about a quarter of the total nationwide, were studied in the Scottish Highlands and islands.

The British breeding population of the golden eagle, about 420 pairs, is found almost entirely in the Highlands and is of international importance.

Britain has the largest population in western Europe apart from Spain and northern Scandinavia. In recent years one pair of golden eagles has regularly nested on a remote crag in Cumbria.

Food is the main factor in variations of the eagles' density and breeding success, the report says. In the summer when young are being fed, food is mainly mountain hare, rabbit, ptarmigan and red grouse.

However, remains of more unusual food are found in eyries. In one west of Scotland nest there were traces of peregrine falcon, hedgehog, two young foxes and six herring gulls.

In winter, particularly in western Scotland, the eagle is a scavenger favouring supplies of carrion, especially dead sheep and deer.

The investigations showed distinct variations on density and breeding success in the areas studied.

Breeding success did not follow the same pattern, the most successful birds being in the eastern Highlands, with the poorest in the west.

Eagles were much more successful at breeding where medium-sized birds and mammals, such as ptarmigan and hares, were most plentiful.

The report concludes that while the present population is generally healthy, some recent changes are a warning.

One example is that the number of breeding eagles in mid-Ayr has declined by more than 30 per cent since the late 1950s.

The main changes in land use over the past 25 years have been a widespread decline in hill sheep farming, extensive increases in afforestation in some areas and a wider introduction of systematic management of red deer by culling.

The report says: "Blanket afforestation typically practiced in upland Scotland today effectively excluded not only carrion, but the open country living prey resource as well."

"Both the absolute numbers and the breeding performance of eagles are likely to be depressed in areas where forestry predominates at the expense of other land users."

"Wholesale conversion of upland areas to forestry is probably the most serious long-term threat."



## WORLD SUMMARY

## Attempt to oust Gandhi denied

Delhi — President Zail Singh of India denied yesterday that he was trying to use his implied constitutional powers to oust the Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi (Our Correspondent writes). Mr Singh thus ended days of speculation in the press and among politicians that he was considering such a move under Article 75 of Indian Constitution, which says, "The ministers shall hold office during the pleasure of the President."

Mr Zail Singh's statement said: "The President... wishes it to be known in the clearest terms that the said reports and comments are utterly devoid of any basis. He felt they could not remain uncontradicted any longer."

## Karmal 'under arrest'

Peking (AP) — Mr Babrak Karmal, the former Afghan leader, has been arrested in Afghanistan and is in prison, China's Xinhua news agency reported yesterday.

It quoted diplomatic sources in Islamabad, Pakistan, as saying that Mr Karmal was sent to Pul-e-Charkhai jail in Kabul, the Afghan capital. Xinhua said the arrest order came from the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan, which Mr Karmal headed during his almost seven years in power. The reason for the arrest was not known.

## Chemical Inquest charges on riot

Iraq has used chemical bombs against its own citizens in areas under the control of Kurdish guerrillas, according to statements by two insurgent leaders (Hazhir Temoor-ian writes).

In a telephone call from the Iranian border town of Urmia (formerly Rezaieh), Mr Samany Abderrahman, leader of the Popular Democratic Party of Kurdistan and one of the top three leaders of the long-running insurgency, said that 90 civilians had died so far and large numbers had been wounded.

West Berlin (Reuters) — Police here reviewed security tactics yesterday after violent clashes with left-wing youths over the weekend, a government spokesman said.

The footings and burnings occurred as the city prepared to receive foreign dignitaries to celebrate its 750th anniversary. Fifty-one people were arrested and 27 injured. Police said the scale of violence was the worst in years. The Queen and President Reagan are expected to attend ceremonies here within the next six weeks.

## Mediation by Fahd

Paris — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia will preside at today's meeting between King Hassan of Morocco and President Benjedid Chadli of Algeria at Oujda on the border separating the countries, it was announced here yesterday (Susan MacDonald writes).

Recent signs have pointed to secret contacts between the rival countries, which have been feuding for the past 30 years over border issues and the Western Sahara problem. King Fahd has recently visited both countries and it is thought that his influence has brought about the meeting.

## Poll backs 18 killed in attack strikers

Madrid — In spite of the inconvenience caused to travellers by the wave of rail and airline strikes, 57 per cent of Spaniards support the strikers' battle against the Socialist Government, according to a public opinion poll published in *Diario 16*, the Madrid liberal daily, yesterday (Richard Wigg writes).

Only 22 per cent said that they felt the Government had more right on its side.

San Francisco (Reuters) — Leftist rebels yesterday attacked this north-eastern garrison town, killing 10 soldiers and a civilian in their second big assault in a month.

Seven rebels were also killed in three hours of fighting, but the garrison commander, Colonel Mauricio Ernesto Vargas, said they failed in what was apparently their main objective — to destroy a military blockhouse.

## Pope's plea to affluent

Bonn — The Pope flew to the Roman Catholic stronghold of Bavaria yesterday and told affluent West Germans to have more heart for the poor, more children and fewer divorces (John England writes).

Addressing 82,000 people at Munich's Olympic Stadium, where he beatified Father Rupert Mayer, a Jesuit persecuted by the Gestapo for his anti-Nazi views, the Pope said: "You live in one of the wealthiest countries on earth. Don't let your possessions make you insensitive to those who live on the edges of society." During the visit police confiscated 3,000 leaflets and a wooden cross from an anti-violence group.

## The irony of born-again Nixon's arms sermon

It is an irony that as Congress embarks on the most exhaustive inquiry into a President's conduct since Watergate, the man destroyed by those hearings 14 years ago has not only rehabilitated his reputation, but is playing an important part in the biggest foreign policy issue now facing America, arms control.

Mr Richard Nixon is now by far the most influential former President still living, and possibly one of the most politically active after retirement since the Second World War.

He gives frequent speeches, he is invited to China and the Soviet Union to meet their leaders, he reports his initiatives to the White House, he is invited to address Republican groups, he writes articles for the leading newspapers, magazines and foreign policy journals, and, in the most telling irony of all, his advice was solicited by President Reagan himself at the darkest days of the Iran crisis when

Mr Reagan seemed to have another Watergate on his hands.

By contrast, Mr Jimmy Carter has been ignored by the present Administration and virtually discredited by his own Democratic Party. His book on the Middle East has not had the critical impact of Mr Nixon's writings. He has only rarely been asked

## Washington View

By Michael Binyon

to comment on television on the Iran crisis, and his recent initiative in meeting President Assad of Syria was disdainfully criticized by Administration officials.

Mr Gerald Ford has fared even worse. The last time the man so often mocked in office for his slips and mishaps was in the news when he hosted a conference on humour. Otherwise he is left by press to his very profitable lecture circuit and his golf.

But Mr Nixon, though still arousing hatred and visceral distrust in many, is now a force to be reckoned with. His latest intervention in the arms control debate was a well-argued argument presented with masterful timing.

Just as the right-wing and many traditional arms control moderates in Congress had begun to voice doubts about Mr Reagan's sudden enthusiasm for the latest sweeping Gorbachov offer, Mr Nixon, playing the elder statesman in tandem with his old mentor Dr Henry Kissinger, made himself the mouthpiece for the doubters. He warned Mr Reagan not to accept the latest Soviet offer without insisting on deep conventional cuts and the scrapping of medium-range missiles in Asia as well as Europe.

His advice was certainly welcome in the White House, and several columnists attacked him for having the gall, out of office, to tell those now in charge what to do.

But Mr Nixon has no need to play the politician now. He has no constituency to look to, no interest groups to appease. In his latest intervention on arms control he is able to state some of the facts about negotiating with an experience and bluntness that undermine Mr Reagan's awkward attempt to marry the views of the hardliners and the pragmatists in his Cabinet.

The Strategic Defence Initiative, he said, is never going to protect America's entire population — as Mr Reagan believes. Better, therefore, to admit now that it can at most be used to protect US missile sites, and use it as a bargaining chip to get deep cuts in Soviet offensive weapons.

And Mr Reagan's zero option on medium-range missiles should never have been made, as it set a trap which the Russians have now pushed the West into.

As for Mr Reagan's view of a world without nuclear weapons, this was pure delusion. Nuclear weapons

were here to stay, the former President said, and were essential to Western security.

In this Mr Nixon sounds very like Mrs Thatcher and other European leaders. But it is unwise advice to the White House as it fumbles to find the right response to Moscow. And it is all the more galling when he says with merciless political honesty that Mr Gorbachov is probably eager to involve President Reagan in at least some arms control agreement so that he does not leave office frustrated and a formidable opponent of any agreement his successor achieves.

Changes in political fortunes make strange alliances in Washington. Mr Nixon — or Kissinger, as he and Dr Kissinger are being called — who was once denounced as a softie by conservative columnists because of détente, is being championed by the right.

Irangate hearings, page 8

## Moves on the Middle East chess board

## Arafat puts on face of moderation as Habash goes on Syria mission

Palestinian suspicion that Jordan may be planning to abandon the PLO and treat unilaterally with Israel for the return of the occupied West Bank prompted Mr Yasser Arafat to present his more moderate face to the Arab world yesterday.

He dismissed his disagreements with King Hussein and President Mubarak as no more than "minor differences", but added that the Palestine National Council — whose resolutions in Algiers so angered Mr Mubarak and King Hussein — had decided to "turn a new page" in its relations with Syria.

At almost the same time that Mr Arafat was vouchsafing these views in Kuwait, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine — which in Algiers re-established its alliance with Mr Arafat within the PLO — announced in Syria that its leader, Dr George Habash, would be returning to Damascus for talks with President Assad.

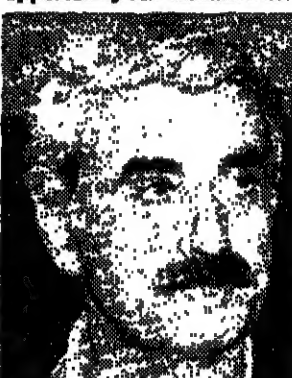
Dr Habash will thus become the first of Mr Arafat's new emissaries to Damascus, tasked with the arduous and humbling experience of renewing the PLO's broken relationship with the man who ordered Mr Arafat's deportation from Syria four years ago.

Amid Mr Arafat's convoluted — though typical — attempts to assuage the impatience of all his Arab mentors came news from Amman that King Hussein had suddenly and inexplicably cancelled his scheduled trip to Egypt this weekend.

The Jordanian Government, which had earlier denied Israeli reports that the King and Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister,

had agreed on a framework for Arab-Israeli peace talks, could provide no explanation for King Hussein's decision. He had been intending to hold talks with Mr Mubarak and to attend the monumental performance of Verdi's opera *Alcina* amid the ancient ruins of Luxor on the Upper Nile.

Palestinian sources in Beirut tried to diminish the importance of the cancellation, suggesting that the King realized he would have little opportunity for sustained dis-



From Robert Fisk, Beirut

ussions with the Egyptian President when Mr Mubarak was playing host to so many rich, royal and operatic personalities.

This, however, may be wishful thinking. The most likely explanation is that the King needs more time to contemplate his future policy towards the PLO after the embarrassing diplomatic leaks from Israel last week.

The PLO is well aware that the King maintains personal contact with the Israelis and it believes his most recent meeting with Mr Peres took place in London. But it also relies on President Saddam Hussein of

Iraq to exercise an ameliorating influence on the King. It was not by chance, therefore, that Mr Arafat chose to visit Baghdad immediately after the end of the Algiers conference, eliciting from the Baathist ruler Iraq's "unwavering support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestine people".

Not that many months ago, it would have been King Hussein who uttered such expressions, but now the Jordanians refer only to "the Palestinian people" rather than to the PLO, and have embarked on a campaign of deliberate irritation of Mr Arafat. They have, for example, permitted Mr Atallah Atallah, the leader of the so-called "Corrective Movement" against Mr Arafat within the PLO, to announce his forthcoming visit to Egypt. During the visit Mr Atallah — codenamed Abu Zaim but a figure of insignificance within the PLO which has stripped him of all his positions in the movement — says he hopes he will meet Mr Mubarak.

Thus when Mr Muhammad Khatib, the Jordanian Information Minister, described reports of a Jordanian-Israeli peace agreement as "non-sense" — as he did on Saturday — it does not calm the nervousness of those PLO officials who realize that direct talks between the two nations would be a devastating blow to Mr Arafat and his supporters.

This has only added to the PLO's new-found enthusiasm for good relations with Syria, and President Assad has himself been quick to appreciate the advantages of Palestinian anxiety.

## Israel's leaders back off

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

terday showed that neither can expect at the moment to win an outright majority.

The crisis is over efforts by Mr Peres, the Labour leader, to arrange an international Middle East peace conference, which Mr Shamir, the Likud leader, is determined must never take place.

For the moment Mr Shamir finds he has been out-manoeuvred on the world stage by Mr Peres, who has managed to persuade the United States to back the conference idea as a way to direct negotiations with Arab countries.

The Prime Minister cannot be happy at having lost American support on such a crucial issue and knows that floating voters can be expected to swing to Mr Peres since they know he has backing from Washington.

But Mr Shamir still remains adamantly opposed to a conference. If one were called, he said in an interview yesterday with the daily newspaper *Maariv*, "Israel will be in

confrontation with the entire world... we will not attain peace. Maybe we will arrive at some sort of settlement, but not peace. The moment Israel agrees to a conference there will no longer be a single Arab element that will agree to direct negotiations."

Last week ended with Mr Peres declaring that the opportunity for direct talks with another Arab country had never been so close, since he had an understanding with King Hussein of Jordan about how to call the conference and start direct negotiations under its protection.

But the leaking of details of this understanding appears to have frightened off the King, who postponed a planned trip to Egypt on Saturday to meet President Mubarak. Mr Peres was hoping that a joint announcement by the two Arab leaders would make it possible for him to win approval in the divided Israeli Cabinet to press ahead with the scheme.



Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister of Israel, left, and President Chaim Herzog praying at Mount Herzl military cemetery yesterday at a Remembrance Day ceremony for war dead.

## 'Reunited' Jerusalem seen as prize granted by destiny

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Major-General Uzi Narkis can claim to be the first commander of an organized Jewish Army to conquer Jerusalem since King David. A dapper man in his early thirties, he now makes his triumph against the night of the Jordanian Army 20 years ago sound almost like an accident.

"Our only aim was to defeat Egypt, but destiny wanted something different," he said last week as he toured Ammunition Hill, a park commemorating the place where the toughest fighting for the city took place.

The capture of Jerusalem may not have been the intention of the Israeli Government at the time, but today it is seen as the most important gain of that short, sharp action. How-

ever much of the occupied territories Israel doves may be prepared to hand back for peace, only the tiniest number even think of handing over Jerusalem.

The ceremonies to mark the 20th anniversary of the war this year are confined to marking the "reunification" of the city, which is making an effort to publicize its achievements since 1967.

Yesterday, when Israel honoured its war dead, there was a special thought for the 183 soldiers who died in the battle for Jerusalem. Today, when the country celebrates its 39th year of statehood, it can claim for the first time that Jeru-

salem has been its capital for most of the country's existence. This may be disputed in the rest of the world, but Israeli law decrees that it is so.

Mr Teddy Kollek, Mayor since 1965, is in no doubt about it, though his efforts on behalf of the Arab population of the city win him frequent abuse and even death threats.

"The sovereignty of Jerusalem will one day be decided," he likes to say. "But that will be when the Messiah comes." Until then, he argued, it will be in no one's interest to divide the city again, and it must remain under Israeli control.

General Narkis did his best to ensure that he captured an undamaged city. He admits today that he might have suffered fewer casualties if he had called for more air support. "The Air Force is not always accurate and I did not want to hit anywhere important."

He claims that his best intelligence about Arab intentions during the battle came from Cairo radio, which announced the capture of the tiny Israeli enclave on Mount Scopus before it had even been attacked. This made him realize that he had to defend it.

The general had decided to move close to the walls of the Old City, ready for the political decision to capture it. In his experience, political dithering costs time and he wanted to be able to move immediately.

His paratroops moved down the Mount of Olives and quickly reached the Wailing Wall. "From then on it was no longer a Wailing Wall, but a

wall of hope. I go on hoping that Jerusalem will one day be recognized all over the world as the capital of Israel."

The city's architects have been doing their best to make the capital a geographical fact, even if it is not politically accepted. Four satellite towns accommodate the huge influx that wanted to live in Jerusalem after the war.

In 20 years the population has doubled to 460,000 and its area has tripled. The boundary was drawn on the principle of "maximum area — minimum error", with the intention of keeping a population mix of two-thirds Jews and one-third Arabs.

Father Martel Dubois is a Dominican monk and Israeli citizen. For him, Jerusalem is a paradox as divided city and universal symbol of unity. He remembers trying to hold meetings for reconciliation and found that he could not use Hebrew, because the Arabs saw this as the language of an occupying power, while Israelis saw Arabic as the language

of terrorism. "In the end, the only way we could pray together for the peace of the whole city was to do that silently."

The Mayor admits to many problems but is not pessimistic. He claims the city is less dangerous than any of the same size in the West, but he expects all the problems will be solved "in two or three hundred years' time."

## Dante's remains lost by Florentine library

Florence (Reuters) — The remains of Italy's greatest poet, Dante Alighieri, were reported missing yesterday in two yellowing envelopes at the National Library here — but their disappearance could date back over 50 years, museum officials said.

The envelopes containing the remains of the 14th-century poet and moral philosopher were last put on public display here in 1929.

A landmark in literature, his poem *The Divine Comedy* is a Christian epic inspired by the poet's spiritual love for a childhood friend for a girl he called Beatrice. It recounts a journey through Hell, Purgatory and Heaven under the guidance of Beatrice.

Dante's remains had been kept locked in a desk drawer

since 1899 when they were given to the museum by the sculptor, Enrico Pazzi, whose statue of the poet stands in the city's Santa Croce church.

Before then the remains had been kept in the nearby city of Ravenna, where Dante died in 1321 after years of exile from his native Florence.

Friars disinterred and hid the remains in 1519 to prevent Florentines from seizing them and some of them eventually passed into Pazzi's hands.

But despite a year-long investigation, the envelopes, now cannot be found. Officials are working on a theory that they may still be locked in a drawer in the vast museum, or displaced during removal, to different museum premises, in 1935 or following a 1966 flood.

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South Africa: ● Warning to correspondents ● Blacks' election role ● Youth tactics change

# Angry minister carpets British TV reporters over coverage

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Foreign television coverage of last week's police action against students in Cape Town and outside the black trade union headquarters in Johannesburg has angered the Government, and it has ordered embassies to send copies of the material broadcast.

The correspondents of both BBC Television and ITN were summoned to a meeting with Mr Stoffel Botha, the Minister of Home Affairs, at the weekend and have been ordered to see him again today.

The Government is appealing against a Natal Supreme Court ruling that state of emergency regulations covering journalistic coverage of unrest situations are invalid. It also holds the view that the Natal judgment is binding only in that province.

A massive advertising blitz has been unleashed on South Africa's white voters in the final countdown to Wednesday's general election.

The country's major Sunday newspapers yesterday each carried full-page advertisements placed by the main parties and the troika of independent candidates led by Dr Denis Worrall.

In an unprecedented move, the first of a series of hard-hitting advertisements placed by extra-parliamentary interests are due to appear today in the country's biggest-selling daily newspaper, the Johannesburg Star. Their decision contrasts completely

with their views expressed at the onset of the three-month-long election campaign that the white parliamentary poll was "irrelevant".

The editor of the Star, Mr Harvey Tyson, said at the weekend: "The advertisements are pouring in... and every printed phrase that has political relevance turns out to be legal dynamite."

"It's acceptable that the Nats (National Party) call the PFFs (the official opposition Progressive Federal Party) fellow-travellers. It's fine if the PFFs reply with equally exaggerated venom. But if extra-parliamentary interests enter the publishing argument with words about justice and peace, the alarm bells ring in our lawyers' offices."

On Friday the radical Weekly Mail carried election advertisements placed by extra-parliamentary groups, including the Soweto Civic Association which demanded of whites: "By what right do you vote for a Government... which sets its armies against us... which jails our leaders and our children... which bans our meetings and organizations?"

A ruling by the Natal Supreme Court in Durban that the Government's recent ban on organized protest against detention without trial is invalid is subject to appeal and there are different legal interpretations over whether the ban still applies until the outcome of the appeal.

## Voteless millions cast shadow over whites-only poll

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

South Africa's voteless black millions may not be going to the polls themselves, but they have already cast a long shadow across the campaign for the whites-only elections on Wednesday.

President Botha and his ruling National Party have devoted so much time and energy to attacking the outlawed African National Congress and its leaders that the uninitiated observer could be forgiven for assuming that Mr Nelson Mandela, in Cape

### ● Long-term risk in portraying ANC as tool of communism ●

Town's Pollsmoor Prison, and Mr Oliver Tambo, in exile in Lusaka, were running as candidates.

During the past few weeks, the Government has taken out full-page advertisements in newspapers across the country to persuade whites that any vote cast for parties or individuals to its left is, in effect, a vote for the ANC and its Moscow-manipulated communist allies.

"Over a dead body would I vote ANC. So why vote PFF?" proclaim the advertisements in reference to the liberal Progressive Federal Party, which at present holds the most opposition seats in the white House of Assembly and advocates negotiations with the ANC.

Mr Justice Kanne Meyer, of the Grahamstown bench of the Supreme Court, granted the PFF an injunction last Saturday forbidding the Government from further publication of the advertisement. The PFF had complained that it incorrectly quoted Mr Ken Andrew, chairman of the party's federal executive, as saying that it intended to form an alliance with the ANC.

The court's ruling, while a blow to the Government, probably comes too late to undo the damage already done to the PFF. The PFF's leaders, though by no means all its members, believe that the ban on the ANC must be lifted and an attempt made to draw the organization into negotiation, but they have tried to play down this aspect of their policy, knowing that it is not a vote-winner in white politics.

The three former NP supporters running as independents, Dr Denis Worrall, Mr Wynand Malan and Dr Esther Lategan, are portrayed as surrogate PFFs, and therefore equally guilty by association of being prepared to "surrender" to the ANC.

PFF candidates have been put on the defensive. Mr Colin Egin and other party leaders notably did not question publicly the need for the recent South African raid into Zambia against alleged ANC targets. Fearing that they would be accused of lack of patriotism or of being "soft" on terrorism.

## Young township militants organize for lengthy struggle

By Shaun Johnson



The first president of the clandestine South African Youth Congress, Mr Peter Mokaba, once jailed on Robben Island for training as an ANC guerrilla but released on appeal.

A significant new development in the organization of young black militants has been taking place in township politics in South Africa, obscured by the run-up to Wednesday's whites-only general elections.

The "comrades" have for the past decade often offered the toughest challenges to government law and power, and the strategies of their shadowy and overlapping groupings will be vitally important factors in developments in South African politics.

Under the state of emergency, thousands of youth leaders have been imprisoned; many observers have concluded as a result that the "youth revolt" has been crushed.

But, in fact, a different form of organization is coming into being, and this change was crystallized by the bizarre, clandestine launch of the South African Youth Congress (Sayco), which took place at the end of March. The congress aims to be a national federation, co-ordinating the activities of the many township youth groups in the country.

It claims a membership of half a million and aligns itself with the umbrella opposition group, the United Democratic Front and the "Freedom Charter" of the banned African National Congress. It is the biggest movement of organized youth seen in South Africa so far. Its leaders have been dubbed the "Class of '87" - a reference to the "Class of '44" leaders of the Youth League of the ANC, which included Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo and Walter Sisulu.

Nowadays such an organization can be born only in secret, but the fact that the launch took place without disruption is evidence that the "comrades" still seem to have some capacity for organized political activity in spite of the repression of the past year.

The organizers spun an intricate web of disinformation to prevent the police from discovering the venue. Its real location was changed three times before the event. Few of the 100-odd delegates had any idea of the actual place and were moved about by marshals in groups of 10.

Journalists chasing rumours fared less well, some ending up in Durban just as the meeting was starting in Cape Town. A few hours later, it was over and the participants dispersed.

Sayco's slogan is the uncompromisingly militant "Freedom or Death: Victory is Certain". It has taken ANC colours and uses a symbol reminiscent of the flagwavers

of the UDF. It is ideologically aligned with the ANC tradition.

The first president is a 25-year-old veteran of Robben Island, Mr Peter Mokaba, who was convicted of undergoing guerrilla training for the ANC but released on appeal after a year's imprisonment.

It promised to back up its demands with concerted political action and there have already been signs of increased youth involvement in the recent Soweto rent boycott and support for the railway strike. At a recent press conference, also held in secret, Mokaba gave the impression that Sayco will wield considerable influence inside the UDF.

Sayco's birth represents an important shift in black opposition tactics towards a "new realism" of long-term action. Strictly speaking, it is a legal organization, in that it has not been banned. It operates virtually underground on the assumption that the leaders of a more open organization would be immediately arrested and detained.

A year ago young black political firebrands were talking of the imminent collapse of white rule; they have now experienced the immense and confounding power of the Government and are settling down for a long haul.

# THE TRUE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE IS STRONGER THAN EVER.

## THE 1987 ROLEX AWARDS FOR ENTERPRISE

The Rolex Awards for Enterprise were conceived in 1976 to provide help and encouragement in breaking new ground in the fields of Applied Sciences and Invention, Exploration and Discovery, and the Environment.

Since 1976, Rolex has awarded 20 individuals who have demonstrated a remarkable spirit of enterprise and commitment in their fields of endeavour.

An international panel of judges, in granting the Awards, has helped to bring to fruition many projects that might otherwise not have been realised.

Each of the five current winners, announced in Geneva on 30th April 1987, has received 50,000 Swiss Francs. Also, each winner has been presented with a specially inscribed gold Rolex Chronometer, itself a symbol of enterprise and achievement.

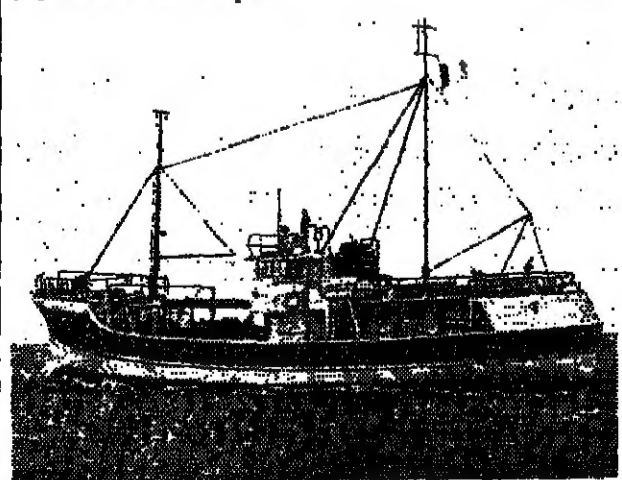
### MEDICAL AID FOR THE INDIAN OCEAN ARCHIPELAGOS.

To people cut off by the sea, a medical emergency is an emergency indeed. The islanders of the Maldives archipelago in the Indian Ocean, for example, may have to travel five days by boat to see a doctor.

Jacques Autran and his colleagues, a doctor, understood the problem from years of navigating in various archipelagos. Their first step was to set up a *Marins sans Frontières*. Their second was to acquire an appropriate boat. They found it: the *Léviathan*, a motor fishing vessel, bought for her worth as scrap metal.

It took four years to clean, rebuild and equip the *Léviathan*, using volunteers and salvaged materials. She now carries a small operating theatre, a pharmacy with cold storage for vaccines, and a well-equipped laboratory.

*Léviathan* will anchor off a Maldivian island reef, where doctors and nurses will set up a light dispensary on shore. Local health workers will then be trained to continue the work when the *Léviathan* has sailed on, perhaps to Madagascar or the Mauritian archipelago - wherever island dwellers need Autran's imaginative and humanitarian enterprise.



### CREATING SEABIRD COLONIES.

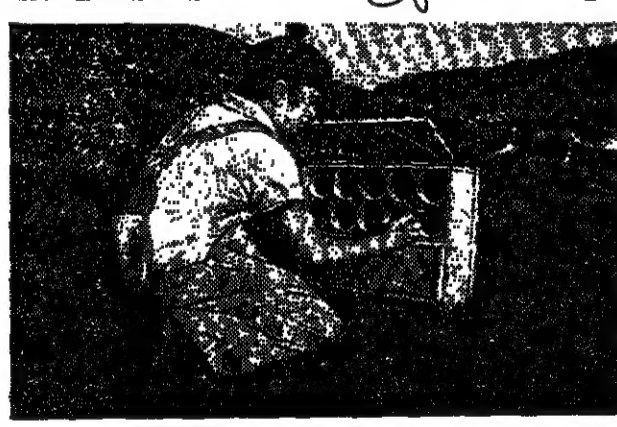
Stephen Kress began his Seabird Colony Creation Project to restore Atlantic puffins to a former breeding site. The puffins, once common in the Gulf of Maine, had been hunted to extinction on certain islands in that region. Kress believed that these birds were the ideal model for developing techniques to restore endangered species.

The key to his plan lay in the tendency of puffins to return to their birthplace to breed (natal site tenacity). This tendency, he later demonstrated, is learned during late chick development but before breeding begins. Could endangered species be lured to safe breeding sites by natal site transfers or attraction to new islands?

Using wooden decoys, low-sided mirror boxes and recorded courtship calls, Kress has recolonised former Atlantic puffin and Arctic tern breeding sites. The project has also worked with Leach's storm-petrel, using recorded courtship calls and artificial petrel burrows.

Kress can now start recovery programmes for endangered species, such as the short-tailed albatross of Japan.

He looks forward to sharing his success with others concerned with disappearing seabird life around the world.



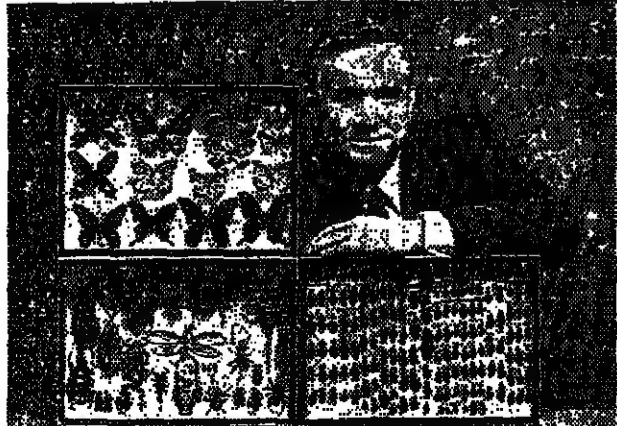
### A SYSTEMATIC STUDY OF NEPALESE GROUND BEETLES.

Few entomologists are able to collect their insects from high mountain regions. But Pierre Morvan is a veteran mountain climber who practises wrestling to keep fit. As the number of professional entomologists declines, competent amateurs such as Morvan play an increasingly important role. His achievements are the more remarkable because he finished his schooling at the age of fourteen.

The processes that help to form biological species (speciation) are Morvan's special interest, with particular reference to ground beetles. Speciation is the result of an animal population becoming isolated by some factor, usually geographic in the first place. Once geographically isolated, a population group will develop its own specific characteristics.

For these reasons, the most valuable studies are done where the ecology and topography are highly varied and where there is a species that readily changes its form. Morvan's speciality, the ground beetles (Carabidae), meet these criteria well.

His project is to study a subfamily of the Carabidae that undergoes intense speciation. His chosen site is the southern Himalayas, where the density of geographic isolation factors is high but knowledge of the fauna is still limited.



### A BUDDHIST PERSPECTIVE ON NATURE CONSERVATION.

Nancy Nash believes it is not enough to focus on biological problems and technical solutions in response to the world's crisis of disappearing nature. She feels that we are overlooking the cultural and social factors which have not only created the problem but which could also help provide a long-term solution to it.

The need for an environmental ethic caused Nash to consider Buddhist teachings, which seek to instil respect for all forms of life.

Thailand, for example, has a high percentage of Buddhists in its population. Yet the country suffers seriously from deforestation and has been stripped of almost 75 per cent of its vegetation in the last 40 years.

Under Nash's initiative, and with the full co-operation of the Dalai Lama, Buddhist groups are now studying their own scriptures for references to the interdependence of man and nature. Their findings will be used in educational books and films acceptable to the hundreds of millions of Buddhist faithful.

The Thailand project, reaching beyond the influence of governments and secular organisations, will serve as a model for other lands and other faiths.

Nancy Nash (HONG KONG)



### EXPLORING SACRED RUINS HIGH IN THE ANDES.

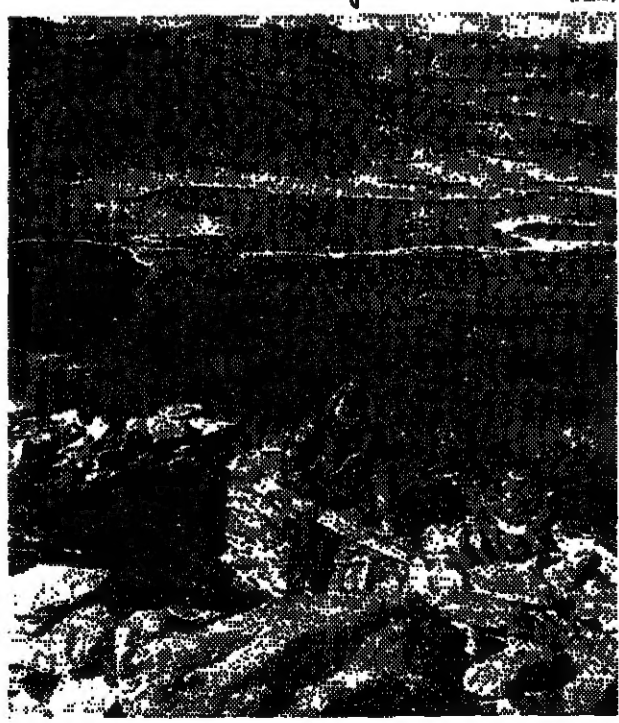
The world's highest ruins by far are found in the southern Andes. Nearly one hundred sites, predating the Spanish invasion of 1532, have been found above 5,200m - with some well-built structures up to 6,700m. They constitute one of the most awesome accomplishments that have survived from ancient times.

Being almost inaccessible, only a few of these sites have been examined by anthropologists. Their origins, distribution and purpose were largely conjectured before Johan Reinhard began work in 1980. He has developed a subfield of anthropology called high-altitude archaeology. Strangely, diving is one of his specialised techniques, for mountain lakes were often perceived as doors into the mountains where the gods dwelt.

Reinhard's findings indicate that mountain gods were believed to control the weather and, consequently, crop and animal fertility. The hypothesis - which his project is designed to test - is that the Incas built the sacred sites to help increase production, thereby strengthening the Inca state and its religion.

Reinhard's pioneering techniques in high altitude archaeology will greatly increase understanding of traditional Andean religious-economic beliefs and ancient religious sites.

Johan Reinhard (PERU)



A book about The Rolex Awards for Enterprise will be available in the spring of 1987, either from bookshops or from the publishers, Van Nostrand Reinhold. It will give full details of the projects of the five Laureates as well as 238 other projects selected from the many submitted, including 32 that were accorded Honourable Mentions.

Further information about The Rolex Awards for Enterprise is available from The Secretariat, The Rolex Awards for Enterprise, PO Box 178, 1211 Geneva 26, Switzerland.





## Ex-US envoy hits out as America prepares for Irangate hearings

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Fresh accusations that American officials illegally ordered the former Ambassador to Costa Rica to help the Nicaraguan Contras came at the weekend as Washington prepared itself for the momentous congressional hearings into the Iran-Contra affair, which open tomorrow.

For the next three months special investigating committees of the Senate and House of Representatives will go over every aspect of the scandal, calling at least 50 witnesses, including Cabinet officers, past and present White House and National Security Council (NSC) officials, diplomats, arms dealers, Contra leaders, middlemen, mercenaries, and possibly even President Reagan.

The hearings will focus on the White House role in the affair and on the personal involvement, if any, of Mr Reagan. As in the Watergate hearings 14 years ago, the presidency is on trial. If the nationally televised inquiry implicates Mr Reagan in the diversion of Iran arms profits to the Contras, or simply fails to clear him of all wrongdoing, the revival of his political standing may collapse.

As public interest in the affair is again stimulated, Mr Lewis Tambos, who resigned as the US Ambassador to Costa Rica, said yesterday that senior US officials directed him and the station chief of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) to provide logistical support to the Contras and

Americans flying weapons and other supplies.

"Now the people who gave us orders are trying to paint us as running amok," he said. "It's insane."

He accused in particular Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, the former NSC aide, and Mr Elliott Abrams, an Assistant Secretary of State.

The former ambassador said he never saw a manifest, but believed the cargo flown to the Contras included military equipment.

Major-General Richard Secord, the former Air Force officer at the centre of arrangements to supply the Contras, will be the first witness called. He will be asked to describe for the first time the infrastructure of the clandestine private network that carried arms to the Contras during the two years in which direct US aid was forbidden by Congress.



Mr Walsh: key figures may co-operate without immunity

He is also expected to give details on the sale of arms to Iran, including how the money was handled.

The next witness will be Mr Robert McFarlane, the former NSC adviser who first proposed the Iran initiative to Mr Reagan in the summer of 1985.

Other witnesses will include Rear-Admiral John Poindexter, his successor at the NSC who has already been granted partial immunity and who, at the weekend, gave testimony to the congressional investigators behind closed doors. No details of that hearing were released and none will be.

Meanwhile, Colonel North, who will probably testify next month, said defiantly that he would never plead guilty to anything and had acted in the best interests of the US. Speaking on television, he said he wondered what pressures were brought to bear on Mr Carl Channell, the conservative fund-raiser who pleaded guilty last week to raising funds illegally for the Contras and named him as a co-conspirator.

"This Marine is never going to plead guilty to anything," he said.

Mr Lawrence Walsh, the special Iran prosecutor, said at the weekend that Mr Channell's guilty plea showed that key figures might co-operate without receiving congressional immunity, and he called on the two committees not to grant widespread protection to them.

## Stricken ferry yields its bitter harvest of scrap



The deck of a floating raft at Zeebrugge yesterday, piled high with a tangle of smashed vehicles removed by salvage workers from the wreck of the Herald of Free Enterprise. The body of the 183rd victim of the ferry disaster was recovered at the weekend (David Sapsed writes). Smit Tak, the

Dutch salvage firm in charge of the recovery operation, hauled 24 cars, nine lorries and 10 trailers from the vessel on Saturday and a third barge-load of vehicles was brought in to Zeebrugge late last night. The salvage team has had to remove many of the 100-plus vehicles on board in a bid to

stabilize the vessel. Most of the 34 trucks and 70 cars tipped to the port side of the ship in the March 6 tragedy. When the Herald is back on an even keel — probably towards the end of this week — it will be towed from its temporary berth inside the western mole of Zeebrugge harbour to a nearby

Belgian naval base. At that point, the \$4 million salvage contract will be officially concluded. The British inquiry into the accident resumes in London tomorrow with the ship's master, Captain David Lewry, among those scheduled to give evidence this week.

## Libya and the South Pacific

### Canberra concern focuses on Vanuatu

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

Despite the publicity it has generated in the past month, the precise nature of the threat posed by Libya in the South Pacific remains a closely guarded intelligence secret.

Last week, however, it became sufficiently serious to galvanize Australia and New Zealand into hasty consideration of a joint response to be made at the South Pacific Forum conference later this month.

After Friday's secret flight by Mr Bill Hayden, Australia's Foreign Minister, to meet Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, the media here has been filled with — mainly uncorroborated — speculation about just what the Gaddafi regime is up to.

Most attention is focused on Vanuatu, where Libya proposes to establish a diplomatic post and where some sections of the ruling party have connections with Tripoli.

Canberra's handling of the matter has done nothing to diminish the intensity of speculation. Mr Hayden tried without success to make light of his pre-dawn flight to New Zealand, saying it had been his only opportunity to meet Mr Lange before the South Pacific Forum conference.

Over the past month Mr

Hawke's Government has missed no opportunity to make plain its concern that Libya intends mischief in the South Pacific.

In an interview with *The Times* last month, Mr Hayden said that, although there was no "concrete evidence", Australian intelligence reports gave worrying indications that Tripoli was offering military training to secessionist movements in New Caledonia and Irian Jaya, the Indonesian half of the island of New Guinea. It had previously emerged that, although it has no commercial interests in the South Pacific, Libya wants to set up a People's Bureau on Vanuatu.

Last week, in an address to the Foreign Correspondents' Association of Australia, Mr Hayden said that Canberra blamed France for creating a climate of instability in New Caledonia and Vanuatu by its handling of legitimate independence movements.

The tibits might not in the ordinary course of events have attracted such intense interest, but the Gaddafi spectre has loomed particularly large in Australian minds because of suggestions that Libya has alighted on radical Aborigines as another discontented regional minority. The recent attendance at a Tripoli conference on "colonialism and racism" of an Aboriginal activist — who returned home claiming that Libya wanted to help Australia's original inhabitants in their plight — provoked alarm and outrage among many whites.

For the time being, however, the main attention is on the small island nations in the South Pacific, which Mr Hayden believes would be vulnerable to Libyan destabilization techniques.

One uncorroborated report from Canberra at the weekend stated that the Government thought that pro-Libyan ministers in Vanuatu are in the ascendancy because Father Walter Lini, the Prime Minister, was immobilized by a stroke earlier this year.

It claimed that groups in Vanuatu had been trained in "paramilitary and crowd-manipulation techniques".

Another report, also uncorroborated, said that small supplies of arms and ammunition have been moved to Vanuatu. The line of concern here is that Vanuatu could become a training ground for secessionist guerrillas of other Melanesian people.

In New Caledonia, for example, Kanak nationalists are seeking independence from France, while in Irian Jaya guerrillas of a group known as the OPM are waging a low-intensity insurgency against Indonesian forces.

This latter conflict is of particular worry to Australia, which retains an abiding interest in the defence of neighbouring Papua New Guinea.

● JAKART: Mr Bill Hayden, the Australian Foreign Minister, said yesterday that he wants to consult Indonesia about new diplomatic moves on Cambodia following the Soviet Foreign Minister's tour of South-East Asia, Indochina and Australia (Reuters reports).

He told reporters on his arrival for a brief visit that he would also discuss South Pacific affairs and Indonesia's recent elections during talks today with President Suharto and Mr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, the Foreign Minister.

Leading article, page 13

## Eight die in Gaza van crash

● Aviv (Reuters) — Eight people were killed and 11 injured when a bus hit a van belonging to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency near the Palestinian town of Khan Yunis in the occupied Gaza Strip.

Police said the bus rammed into the rear of the van at an intersection, killing eight passengers in the UN vehicle. Their names were not immediately released.

In another incident in the area, a firebomb was thrown at an Israeli car in Gaza City, burning the vehicle but causing no casualties.

## Nine drown

● Kisumu, Kenya (Reuters) — Nine people have drowned in floods over the last three days after heavy rains hit central and western Kenya. The dead include four children swept away by a flooded river in the Nyakach district, near Lake Victoria.

## Malawi poll

Blantyre (AFP) — Malawi will hold general elections on May 27 and 28, when 112 parliamentary seats, 11 more than in the previous 1983 elections, are to be filled. All from the Malawi Congress Party of President-for-Life Banda, the only legal party in Malawi.

## Fast over

Washington (Reuters) — The American anti-nuclear activist, Mr Charles Hyder, who staged a seven-month hunger strike opposite the White House, has ended the fast and says he will run for President.

## Notes fraud

Genoa (Reuters) — Police in northern Italy have arrested 76 people in an anti-forgery operation and netted fake bank notes with a face value of more than £4 million.

## MiGs to India

Delhi (AP) — The Soviet Union has delivered two squadrons of MiG 29 fighter jets to India several months ahead of schedule.

## Stamp value

Oslo — A block of nine of Norway's first stamps, the so-called "four-shilling Oscar" dating from the last century, fetched a record 787,500 kroner (about £70,000) at the weekend.

## Soviet phone taps enrage Congress

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

As controversy grows over congressional calls to demolish the new "bugged" US Embassy in Moscow, American intelligence sources were quoted at the weekend as saying that the Soviet Union is already extensively monitoring phone calls from US government offices in Washington.

The *New York Times*, citing intelligence authorities, said the Russians used embassy homes on high ground and diplomatic missions of other communist countries to intercept microwave conversations, especially microwave conversations, and long-distance telephone traffic from government offices.

US officials are concerned that when the Russians occupy their new embassy site on high ground in north-west Wash-

ington they will have a clear view of the Pentagon, the White House, the State Department and the Naval Security Station, a centre for secret naval communications.

Soviet eavesdropping has been widely publicized for several years, and government officials are asked not to use the telephone for sensitive conversations. But congressional pressure is now rising to prevent the Russians from occupying the Mount Alto site and to rebuild their embassy elsewhere.

The present Soviet Embassy is only a few blocks from the White House, but interference from surrounding tall buildings makes this site less useful for monitoring telephone conversations.

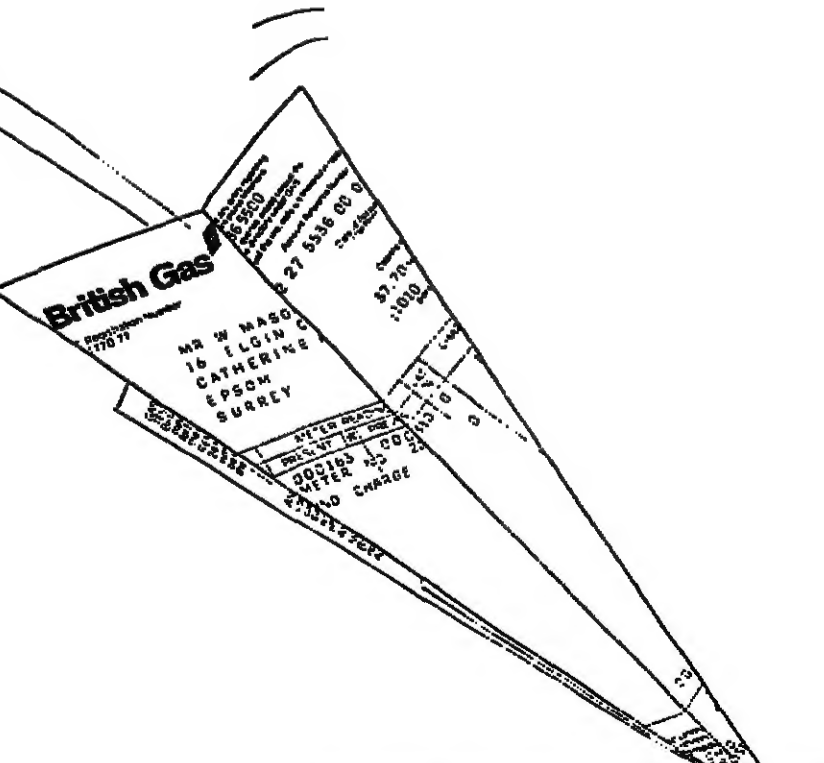
The *New York Times* said

Soviet listening posts included an East German residence on a ridge across the Potomac river from the capital, and the Cuban interests section of the Czechoslovak Embassy, about two miles from the White House. The Russians are also said to use residential compounds for diplomats in New York and the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco for listening in.

Meanwhile, the State Department has said it will wait for the completion of a high-level study before deciding whether to knock down the new US Embassy in Moscow.

Congress is expected to cut off funds for the building until the Government can prove that listening devices have been neutralized and the building is secure.

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## Greens to get tough with SPD after hardliners gain control of party

Hardline "fundamentalists" who reject coalitions with the Social Democrats (SPD) now control the leadership of West Germany's anti-nuclear, anti-industry Greens party, whose three-day annual congress ended in Duisburg yesterday.

The Fundis, as they are known in the party, emerged the clear victors in the election of a new 11-strong national executive with eight seats.

The "realists", or Reals, who favour co-operation with the SPD, finished with three seats.

The Fundis, who had a majority of only one seat on the last executive, also secured the offices of the Greens' three spokespersons, two of them women, which are the equivalent to the posts of chairman in other political parties.

The Greens are now expected to take a tougher line

towards the troubled SPD, and refuse to consider alliances with the party in four more state elections due this year following the defeat of a so-called Red-Green coalition in Hesse last month.

Two of the polls, in Hamburg and Rhineland-Palatinate, will be held on May 17.

The congress also hosted a battle between the single feminists, who have the dominant voice in the party on women's rights issues, and a new mothers' group, which demanded its own say on family affairs.

A "mothers' manifesto" demanded the setting up of an independent working group to cover its needs, but the feminists overwhelmingly outvoted it. The mothers were given a compromise of a sub-group within the Greens' women's organization.

The congress, however, was united in calling for a form of public ownership short of nationalization of the country's crisis-ridden steel industry; a shorter working week; publication of all industrial firms' data; and the forming of job-creating societies within the firms.

The Greens were also at one in calling on West Germans to boycott a national census on May 25, the first since 1970, which the party says is state snooping.

People who refuse to answer the census-takers' questions will face fines of up to £3,300.

Bonn City Council has already fined the 44 Greens MPs in the Bundestag £2,800 each for displaying a boycott banner outside Parliament.

The congress, however, voted overwhelmingly to pursue the party's boycott policy.

## Political crisis in Brazil

### Pressure on Sarney for early election

From Mac Margolis, Rio de Janeiro

This time last year President Sarney of Brazil seemed well on his way to latter-day sainthood. The President with the broom moustache and a flair for poetry rode the crest of an all-but-magical economic reform, the Cruzado Plan, to the top of opinion polls.

There were Sarney posters and Sarney dolls, moustache-tied Sarney carnival masks.

His Finance Minister was, unusually, a national hero, showered with fan mail. The President, who landed in power accidentally after a popular President-elect died two years ago, was suddenly basking in the limelight. Once thought to be lucky to survive a transition mandate, Senator Sarney looked last year to be a certain candidate for a full six-year term, and possibly reelection.

A year later Senator Sarney is blinking again, but like a man who still does not know what hit him. His Cruzado Plan expired, a casualty of populist politics, palace infighting and mismanagement. His bullish economy, which expanded by 8 per cent last

year, is on the edge of recession. The once robust, billion-dollar monthly trade surplus is now, even after two months of moratorium, barely out of the red and nowhere near healthy enough to allow resumption of debt repayments.

Senator Sarney's strong-arm Finance Minister, Senator Dilson Farnaz, quit last week amid criticism from businessmen at home and bankers abroad. The President's behind-stage manoeuvres to replace him with a novice politician, deemed by the "cardinals" of Brazil's hallowed political halls to be lacking in pure party pedigree, provoked a near-rupture between the President and the leader of the majority Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB).

As if that were not enough, Senator Sarney's ensuing shuffle of ministers alienated a bloc of seven governors from his own north-east region. One of them, the Pernambuco state governor, Senator Miguel Arraes, broke publicly with Senator Sarney, and denounced the austerity plans of



President Sarney: damaged by economic setbacks

a new Finance Minister as "the road to recession".

Not surprisingly, Senator Sarney's televised Labour Day address last Friday night had more than a whiff of nostalgia.

Like a football coach in a game's deciding minutes, the President leaped towards the camera, balled his fists and waxed sincere: "If we all sit down together, we can return to the good old days of Cruzado Plan."

"Believe," the President implored viewers, "believe that the Government can do a lot. But it can't do everything." He

appealed for a truce and the building of "national understanding" to halt the "endless race of high inflation rates".

But Brazilians seem disposed neither to sit down together nor live through another Cruzado Plan. A poll published on Saturday by the *Folha de São Paulo* showed that 72 per cent of respondents want presidential elections by November 1988, two years before schedule. A startling 44 per cent want Senator Sarney replaced immediately. His poor showing "is fruit of a whole sequence of indecisions, errors and disasters in his administration", said the *Folha* editorial.

The prospect of imminent elections, so remote until a few months ago, seems a certainty now.

The Sarney dolls are gone. There are now irrelevant stickers and Sarney jokes.

The once ambitious Senator Sarney, who hoped for six years to propel Brazil into the ranks of developed nations by the next century, may be remembered instead as the man who went at the right time.

Economic changes, page 19

سكزامن الاصل

DISCO ABO



SPECTRUM 1



Photographs by Graham Wood

# All at sea on the ocean wave

All is not quite ship-shape on board the QE2. As she sails across the Atlantic on her first voyage after refitting, Bryan Appleyard samples the international cuisine and waits for the Jacuzzi to reopen

The man sitting at the bar has just ordered a pink gin. The north Atlantic is slipping smoothly by. The great ship is making more than 30 knots and New York is preparing a "gala" welcome for the new QE2. For a brief moment you might almost say: "This is the life". But the vast steel and aluminium whale is still humming with discontent.

It is impossible to find an American who does not feel that Cunard has violated his constitutional rights, while the Brits just murmur bitterly into the ear of every passing officer. Orange-overalled workmen of every conceivable nationality are constantly removing panels to fiddle with pipes and wires, and the condition of the lowest-class decks, in the bowels of the ship, has to be seen to be believed. By Saturday, Cunard had bowed to the inevitable and given everybody on the voyage a 40 per cent refund on their fares, promising more for particularly bad cases.

Captain Lawrence Portet, an immensely tall Bernice Winters lookalike, floats on this sea of unease with log-like calm. He beams at one and all and absorbs complaints with an eerie air of unconcern. His sense of humour seems a touch awry — on two occasions he has spoken of an "unforgettable" voyage and looked baffled at the ensuing jeers and sardonic applause.

Meanwhile, his staff in the purser's office have gone glassy-eyed from listening to the passengers. On the first night they had even been asked for blankets, so that the cabinless could sleep in the corridors, and for three days the stream of demands for refunds on the fare was unceasing. The most common complaints concern poor, unfinished cabins or the absence of any of the heavily promoted facilities.

Yet there is a persistent tension between what life is actually like and what it is supposed to be like. On boarding, you are welcomed into a deep blue room in which a man plays a Hawaiian guitar and girls offer flowers. I had not taken too seriously the passport-control man who had muttered, after staring bleakly at my profession: "You'll find lots to write about in there."

The first-class cabin seemed fine — a top-class hotel with the usually jiffy "international" taste. But the video cassette recorder that should

have been with my television was missing and there was no plug in the bath. Not to worry — Geoffrey, the cabin steward, calmly fielded the problem and shimmered off to his cubby-hole.

A stray radio officer I ran into in the "Yacht Club" bar winced when I called the QE2 a boat — "Er... it's a ship, sir" — and grew a little defensive when asked about post-refit problems.

Anyway, if you are thinking of taking the boat across the herring pond this summer, here are a few fashion hints. To feel truly "one of the crowd" you need to be old (very old), American, wear clashing cruise wear and sinister-looking sneakers. A "must" accessory is a video camera — preferably JVC — and, for the men, a toupee. Really rotten rugs are a sure sign of the wealth on board.

If you happen to be young, you must be sporty. And that means you have to cope with Daryl from Johannesburg and join the Golden Door Club. This is some kind of fitness programme that lasts through the whole voyage and would, it is said, cost you \$3,000 if you bought it ashore. Also, this ship does not have a deck; it has a "jogging track" upon which you are encouraged to do "miles at sea". Every morning you can stare aghast at people lurching about outside, looking worse by the hour.

There is even a Golden Door Diet recommended in the restaurants. This consists — surprise, surprise — of steamed fish, raw vegetables and so on. Everybody else stuffs themselves silly from morning till night on the lush international cuisine which, to be honest, is no better than okay.

All this drives home one big point: this ship is about as British as the Statue of Liberty. Prices are all in dollars, you "meet with" people, and it is all the staff can do to choke back the words "Have a nice day". And no scene could be more American than the rows of wobbly ladies in mail-order clothes feeding the banks of fruit machines with the quarters earned by the coronaries of their late husbands.

The entertainment provided is a bizarre mixture. For the minimalist, there is Channel 4 on the ship's television. This is a picture taken by a camera on the ship's bridge. It consists of the sea, with a small fragment of the QE2's bow

at the bottom of the screen. Elsewhere there are the usual James Bond films. The big-screen cinema had daily showings, each of which was cancelled as the staff failed to get anywhere with a projector that had mysteriously been hit by a hammer.

And there are lectures. If you want a retirement spent cruising the world, this is the game to get into. John Rich, an American journalist, travels the globe first-class, with his wife, by telling the serried ranks of rugs and blue rines about his days in Japan. The library on board runs quizzes, but, in the confusion of the first day, nobody bothered to enter. You frequently lurch into painted faces above nylon coats, giving beauty classes to ladies of an age when their thoughts should be turned to higher things.

Evenings have a sort of uneasy raffishness about them, with ageing "international superstar" Jack Jones or the Jackie Sprague Orchestra, and even singles nights.

The trick, presumably, is to overlay the proceedings with that insistent eroticism that the big hotels all seem to manage. If wasn't working. Apart from anything else, there was no laundry or valet service operating, and it's difficult to be insistently erotic when you're crumpled and odour-conscious.

By Thursday, Cunard had

**The video was missing and there was no plug in the bath**



Captain of the cruise: Lawrence Portet on the bridge, ready with a quip for every occasion

who couldn't grasp the word lobster however loudly you shouted it.

Sybil and James Bimbi who are on the trip to celebrate their silver wedding, are still recovering from their first night. They had demanded a cabin change. Sybil was sitting on the bed in her dressing gown, wondering if they would get to meet the captain, when suddenly there was Cap'n Larry himself, beaming on the bed beside her and saying he would be taking their cabin. Cunard Commodore Douglas Ridley had requisitioned Larry's pad.

The daily programme entitled "The leisure world of QE2" had a quote for the day. It was from Carl Sagan: "Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known." The lucky discoverer on this occasion was the inhabitant of cabin 1,050. Another pipe had burst, flooding his room. That was at lunch. By tea a workman was just finishing off putting down a new carpet, while 1,050's suits hung forlornly above the wreckage.

American ladies were getting into the swing of things by this stage, rushing up to your reporter to deliver such "scoops". In fact, a general wave of "We're all in this together" feeling had swept over the ship. Crew and passengers were moaning together, while sunshine and an exceptionally calm sea had begun to introduce a degree of euphoria. Even the joke about *Fawlty Towers* afloat was now being cracked by staff members as well.

Meanwhile the leisure world of QE2 crackled along as normal — the special masonic meeting of one day had been replaced by a get-together of Kiwanis and Rotarians in the mid-ship bar, one of the few parts of the ship not actually changed in the re-fit. John Bun, the cruise director, said the old Cunard groupies — of whom there are quite a few on this voyage — regarded this bar as the place for people with "maximum cruise credibility".

The Golden Door had moved on from their series of Chairman Mao exercises to demanding that we all "get electrified in the aerobics circuit".

A registered chiropodist/podiatrist was on hand to advise on footcare and we were all waiting to hear the "piano styling" of Arline Daniels. The radio room was jammed with telexes, presumably as a result of the financial planning and successful portfolio

management lecture which had been given by Jim Turner in the morning.

Ever amiable, but by now distinctly weary, Alan Kennedy dropped in to my cabin to confess he knew nothing of the flood in 1,050. Pipes, he kept explaining, often burst after a long period out of use. He also explained why the Jacuzzis were not working — more pipe work. He then exited to take more calls from the world's Press.

Normal sea-borne crises were being dealt with. These days, it seems, if you are sea-sick they give you a shot costing \$10. It puts you to sleep for two hours and you wake up feeling fine. Even if you are at sea for 10 days afterwards, you continue feeling fine. One was tempted to have the shot, sick or not. But people coming on these voyages should bear in mind the implications of sea sickness — it may last five days, destroying the point of spending £700 to £4,500 for the crossing.

One final, unremarked hassle is the time change. In order to help us adjust to the New York time difference, the ship puts back its clock an hour a day. Forget to do this, and you are looking for breakfast an hour early. But it also makes the days an hour longer, producing a curious cumulative effect of ship-drug. By the last day, you are eating your lunch when you would have been eating your dinner on day one.

But when you look at this ship simply as a ship, you can almost forgive everything. Walking round the jogging track early in the morning is sublime, as long as the Golden Door fanatics are chained up in their empty Jacuzzis. The best trick is to step up below the bridge where it says "DANGER — HIGH WINDS". On a really blowy day you are pinned to the railing, clinging on for dear life and feeling that Jack Jones, the lectures on tax management and all the over-ophelstered nonsense indoors, are beside the point.

But then you wander back in, and there's Cap'n Larry on the Tannoy: "There are teams of skilled workers working round the clock..." Buried deep beneath all the chaos and bad taste, there is probably an experience worth having here. All in all, it's not a bad boat — sorry, ship. Just a rather silly one.

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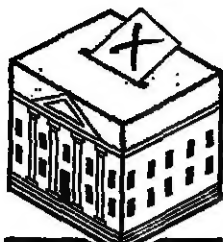
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# Voices in the wilderness



LOCAL ELECTIONS

The local polls this Thursday may determine the timing of a general election — yet to the few remaining independent candidates, national politics still take second place. Paul Valley catalogues a threatened species

For the past two weeks Mrs Brenda Parsons's woolly sheepdog has been perplexed by the changed nature of his daily outings. For a start they are around the hard pavements of Bude rather than along the wiry grass of the chalk downlands which surround the little Cornish seaside town. And though they are longer than usual they are now enormously disjointed as his mistress stops to engage seemingly every passer-by in brief conversation.

Mrs Parsons is standing for election as an independent to both the local parish and district councils on Thursday. For the independent, a slowly disappearing breed in the catalogue of British political animals, not a second of the day can be wasted in the run-up to voting. Without a party machine to spread the electrifying, even walking the dog becomes a political activity.

There are as many reasons for standing as an independent as there are candidates who, by self-definition, are too odd a shape to fit neatly into the three-party jigsaw. But David Denver, of the politics department at the University of Lancaster, who has made a study of the declining fortunes of the independent in British politics, divides them into three broad categories: former party members who have fallen out with their colleagues, candidates in areas where it is still thought to be somehow improper to display a national allegiance at a local level, and individuals who are motivated almost entirely by a single, often parochial, issue.

Independent by spirit as well as by political category, Mrs Parsons defies such convenient compartments, as a day spent canvassing with her revealed. We met after she had finished her afternoon's work stamping books at the local library. She strode out purposefully across the bridge by the picturesque canal, past the garish amusement arcade and up the hill to the top of the downs, pointing out features of the local landscape. She spoke with the knowledge of a local and the enthusiasm of a convert — although it is 30 years since she married into an old Bude family and moved here from her native Croydon, that is not long enough to be regarded as anything other than a "furrer" by many Cornish folk.

"Over there is Efford Down where a property speculator who now lives abroad is trying to get permission to build on an area that has been meadowland since the English Civil War. Down there is where the council has for the past 15 years been supposed to be building a swimming pool. Recently they've tried to push through plans to have it up on the Downs which would mean a lot of ancillary

buildings on an area of outstanding natural beauty — not that that has stopped them in the past." Across the mouth of the bay, on dunes fixed by the rough grass, she points to The Castle. "It was erected by a Victorian inventor to prove that you could build on sand."

At the outset Mrs Parsons's political career seemed to have foundations which were no firmer. But it too could prove surprisingly durable. She entered public life two years ago when the local authorities seemed set on establishing a long-needed £2.5 million sewerage scheme for Bude. Its maceration plant was to be built upon her favourite hilltop. But as she pursued her protest she came across more and more factors which disquieted her. She began a campaign which won national publicity and got the scheme shelved.

"It wasn't a proper sewage treatment plant. It was just something to mince up all the contraceptives, sanitary towels and human waste and pump them into the sea. It wouldn't have got rid of any of the pollution, only disguised it. And they were going to place the outlet 274 metres from the cliff-top instead of the two kilometers which EEC regulations require. What we need is a proper sewerage scheme."

So appalled was Mrs Parsons by the "skulduggery and slippery methods of the authorities" that for the past two years she has attended council meetings as an observer. "They thought I was a nuisance then. Just wait until I get elected."

For all her confidence it is far from certain that she will. Independents have no opinion polls to guide them and in any case Brenda Parsons has deeply divided the electors of Bude. Her calls that evening to private homes brought a fair measure of support. One old lady was typical in expressing new misgivings about the present council. The land between her home and the sea was owned by the council, which had once earmarked it as a public garden; but now she feared that they might sell it to some awful developer. She would vote for anyone who had clashed with the present coterie of councillors. Others talked of the council "slipping things through on the sly".

But her encounters with the business community are less than courteous. Up on the aptly named Wrangle Point she clashed with a hotelier. "You are undermining our livelihood by going on national television and saying 'This place stinks', he fulminated.

"Well it does."

"No more than any other seaside town. You're just a loud-mouth. I pay more rates than you do; why should you have so much to say?"



Walkie talkies: sheepdog Bandit goes canvassing in Bude with independent candidate Mrs Brenda Parsons

Without tourists this place will die."

Passions run as high in other parts of the country. Morecambe Traders Association candidates are complaining that their town is ignored by the Lancaster district council. In Norwich, Doug Underwood is focusing local discontent with the "incoherent" education policies of Norfolk County Council as the Bowthorpe Schools candidate.

At Chertsey in Folkestone, Kathy Methven is standing as the Against The Channel Tunnel Scheme candidate. Nearby in Hythe South, Trevor Denniff is standing as a Clean Sea candidate, though this time the coastal pollution threat is more sinister.

"Dungeness nuclear power station is planning a Magnox dissolution plant to pump low-level radioactive waste into the Channel," Denniff says. "People could vote Liberal or Labour, who are both against it, but for someone to stand on this single issue gives local people the chance to show how strongly they feel about the matter. I don't expect to get elected without a party label, which is a shame really because many local issues like Dungeness or the Channel Tunnel don't respond to conventional party allegiances."

Colin Brookes, who is standing in Ascot, clearly would agree. For the past 32 years he has been a member

of the Conservative Party, seven of them as a leading councillor. But 10 months ago he resigned the whip to become a lone dissenter on an all-Tory council. "These days Conservative councillors have become reduced to merely implementing the national party line. There is no real consideration of the long-term benefit of the local community."

David Denver says: "Local government has been steadily politicized in recent years. How you view that depends on your political philosophy. Those who see the local community as having a unified interest will disapprove. What can be said in favour is that it has resulted in a higher turn-out; there are fewer uncontested elections these days."

In Brenda Parsons's North Cornwall district, traditionally run by independents, there are this year more party candidates than ever before. Elsewhere many of the Ratepayers Groups, which were formed as anti-Labour alliances in days when being a Conservative was less fashionable, are in decline. In Pontypool Brownwen Norris, who was once one of 11 Ratepayers, is now the only remaining councillor; asked why she is now not standing as a Conservative, as many other former Ratepayers have, she replies cryptically: "My political views are private, really."

The ground for the independent is shrinking. In Scotland (where local elections are not taking place this time) there were 356 independents in 1974, according to David Denver's research. At every election the number has declined. In 1981 there were only 272. At regional level the number has more than halved in that period and there is no reason to believe that the decline in England, where independents currently control fewer than 15 per cent of the 12,109 seats, has been any less marked.

Obviously the life-expectancy of many independents is bound to be limited. Where are Edinburgh's Anti-Paper Visit candidates today? But with parliamentary deposits now at £500, the local council, where candidacy is dependent only upon nomination by 10 electors, is often the only refuge for the protest of the ordinary citizen. How else could Harold Brew, the Abingdon Branch Railway Restoration candidate, make public his case for a railway system "which would be viable even after a nuclear war"?

## TOMORROW

Solihull: why victory in the Midlands is so vital to Mrs Thatcher

## Picture of mystery

Who is the anonymous owner of a Van Gogh set to become the second most expensive painting on record?

The corner of the veil has been lifted on one of New York's most private art collections by Christie's announcement that they are to sell Van Gogh's painting of "Le Pont de Trinquetaille" in London in June. Commenting on the owner, who is identified simply as "S. Kramarsky", Christie's director James Roundell said last week: "You should not assume that it is the Siegfried Kramarsky who is recorded as buying the picture in 1932, nor that it is a man." After this limited comment, he seemed to wonder if he had gone too far.

"Le Pont de Trinquetaille" was painted in the same year as Van Gogh's famous "Sunflowers" series and is coming to London for sale as a direct result of the £25 million bid for the last one at Christie's in March. The auctioneers expect it to become the second most expensive picture in the world but are talking conservatively of a price around £8 million. London dealers appear to agree with this caution. It is not an image that everyone has grown up with on the schoolroom wall like the "Sunflowers".

One dealer categorized it as "a thinking person's picture", with the clear implication that most rich collectors do not fall into this category. Thinking people, however, tend to rate it more highly than the £25 million "Sunflowers". "Le Pont de Trinquetaille" was painted at Arles during one of Van Gogh's most inspired creative spells, the week of October 6 to 13, 1888.

So who was the "thinking person" who bought the

painting at the Silberberg sale in Paris in 1932 for 361,000 francs? Siegfried Kramarsky was a German banker of Jewish extraction, who settled in Amsterdam in 1924. Expanding small sums, he accumulated works which are now accounted spectacular treasures. The collection is still substantially intact and belongs partly to a family foundation and partly to Siegfried's three children. Van Gogh was Kramarsky's special favourite. A painting of Daubigny's house was sold from the collection a few years ago, but the family retains a masterpiece, a "Portrait of Doctor Gachet" painted in 1890. Werner Kramarsky, the banker's younger son, is unwilling to discuss the other pictures in the collection, but he admits to another Van Gogh painting of "Shoes", a series of Cézanne water colours and two Rembrandt drawings, one of them a study for "The Jewish Bride".

Siegfried Kramarsky escaped to America in 1939 with his art treasures and his three children. But Sonia, now 65, Bernard, 63, and Werner, 61, are anxious to cover their traces as the owners of great works of art. The "S. Kramarsky" identified by Christie's as owning "Le Pont de Trinquetaille" is, indeed, "not a man" but a married woman using a single initial and her maiden name to avoid identification so that the sale "does not affect her lifestyle", as her brother explains. For her sake, let us hope the price does not go too high.

Geraldine Norman



"Le Pont de Trinquetaille": a thinking man's picture

## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1248

ACROSS

- Weak, feeble (6)
- Location (4)
- Stupid person (5)
- Usual procedure (7)
- Furive (8)
- Rhine/Rhone range (4)
- Scold, decide (9)
- Fortune (4)
- Frenzied state (8)
- Landlord's agent (7)
- Lever (5)
- Cut down (4)
- Tedious speech (6)

DOWN

- Courage (5)
- Hospitality (3)
- Taff Valley mining centre (7,6)
- Spirit (4)
- Gift in gratitude (7)
- Break (5)
- School test (4)
- Tardy (4)
- Sword shaft (4)
- Diminish (7)
- Society (4)
- Moisten meat (5)
- Tower of London bird (5)
- Pepper grinder (4)
- Mine (3)

## Seeds of a wild city

An apple tree of mysterious lineage is in full flower on the bank of one of the many tentacles of the Birmingham canal system which probe the foundations of the city centre. Chris Baines subscribes to the romantic theory of its origins, that it grew from an apple core tossed there by a bargee from a passing boat.

He points to a smothering of lupins and brambles, which may be the last relics of a long-demolished lock-keeper's cottage garden. The national movement to sustain urban wildlife is founded on such isolated riots of green amid the concrete.

Like a streetwise urchin, Baines had led the way into this low-level paradise through a hole in the fence off a thundering city centre artery. These are still navigable waterways; but Baines sees them more as long, narrow, unpolluted lakes for dragonflies and kingfishers.

This slab of canal provides the opening setting of Baines's new BBC1 series, *The Wild Side of Town*, which begins on May 19. In it this bustling pioneer of the urban wildlife movement explores the abundance of nature in cities and towns and proposes ways to preserve and expand it.

Baines's concept, that urban nature is rich, diverse and good for the people who live and work close to it, has taken firm root in Birmingham and 50 other towns and cities the length of Britain. Evidence of the movement's success is the launch on Wednesday by Baines and William Waldegrave, the Environment Minister, of National Wildflower Week, which runs until May 25.

But it started uncertainly with a failure. Baines and other concerned campaigners

Why National Wildflower Week will put Birmingham on the wildlife map



Dedicated to the urban wildlife conservationist Chris Baines

wanted to save an abandoned gravel pit from development. Establishment conservationists recoiled in disbelief. "They said: 'This is in the middle of Birmingham. It can't have any value.' But it had 200 pairs of sand martins. We lost it because there was barely a whisper from anyone in authority."

They realized politicians had to be convinced that

urban wildlife was not "green tat and bronchitic starlings". A recent study of the city's urban habitat found it to be 10 times better for nature than equivalent pieces of countryside.

"In Birmingham the green corridors of disused railway lines are richer than hedges in the countryside ever were," Baines says. "They have been isolated from agriculture since long before pesticides were invented."

Urban conservationists move unhindered about their domain but own nothing as it is either publicly owned, or has a huge development value hopelessly beyond their pocket.

"In towns we can play the democratic process," Baines says. "If we can work the planning system and lobby our elected representatives, we have as much chance of influencing the use of a site as the big developer. Buying a little bit of land to manage as a meadow would be farcical in a city which spends £10 million on grass mowing. So much better to persuade the parks department to mow creatively to encourage skylarks to nest."

He points to a potentially huge explosion of urban habitat since 1980 when the recession started. "But we must not simply abandon these sites and leave them to nature. We can do much better this time."

His vision is of a green urban matrix into which new development can be fitted as the economy grows. He believes a start should be made on unused, publicly-owned land. "We can turn them into beautiful wild places very cheaply and quickly, creating jobs in the process. It would make us the envy of Europe."

Gareth Huw Davies  
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IT'S NOT THE GROUND HE'S LOOKING AT. IT'S HIS GRAVE.

There's one thing in Mozambique today that's still in plentiful supply. Ground on which to die. 42m people are facing starvation as a result of a war fuelled by South Africa. 12m people have fled their homes. They desperately need food, shelter and drinkable water. And we need transport to get help to them. The United Nations Association is acting now to support a major UN relief effort, which is working directly with the Mozambicans. In a country where 1 in 3 die before

their 5th birthday, the only long term solution can be peace.

But in the meantime, we desperately need your help to save lives now. Please give as much as you can.

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MONDAY PAGE

# Is there life after Lloyd?

Chris Evert's divorce from her British husband, John Lloyd, is only 20 days old, but the winner of the record number of 150 singles titles is finding the experience more one of sadness than relief.

Ten days after the divorce, Evert was in Houston, beating Hana Mandlikova and Martina Navratilova, both ranked ahead of her at the time, to win the title there. This week she is in Largo, Florida, where yesterday she beat Kate Gompert to win her 151st title in the \$150,000 Eckerd Open. With her is new boyfriend Andy Mill, a former US Olympic downhill skier.

Evert, however, is still not accustomed to hearing her newly truncated name. "I'm still going through some sadness," she says. "John and I talk all the time. We're still close. Well, we were together eight years. We know deep down it didn't work. We don't want anybody to think we didn't have a special caring for each other. I still talk to him all the time about my matches. He was very much part of my tennis."

She now believes the emotional toll that her dedication to tennis required may have contributed to the failure of her marriage. "A tennis career is very demanding emotionally," she says. "I probably didn't even have enough left for John. I was so wrapped up in the tournaments."

Now, at the age of 32, she believes that things are different. "I think I'm a better person than I was two years ago. I'm making decisions for myself. I'm more independent."

She was upset, however, by some of the stories that appeared in the press, particularly the British tabloid newspapers. "They've been writing some really terrible things about me and John. Especially about me. The British are a different breed. Everyone else has been good and fair. The British papers described Andy as a ski instructor, which is like saying I'm a tennis instructor. And John and I didn't want to disclose the settlement. But they simply lie."

She and her former husband plan to remedy the situation shortly before next month's Wimbledon championships. "John and I will maybe do a press conference about this together," she says, admitting

**Divorce may have shortened Chris Evert's name, but her list of successes on the tennis court grows ever longer. Linda Pentz talked to her in Florida, where yesterday she won her 151st singles title**

that she is apprehensive about her first trip back to London without the Lloyd name.

John Lloyd was apparently reluctant to appear at Wimbledon at all until his former wife talked him into it. "He said it might be horrendous," she reports. "John asked me if he should play. He was hesitant. I told him to get his butt over there. He and Wendy [Turnbull] should play mixed doubles and he should play the men's doubles with Johan [Kriek]."

Looking back, she also wonders at the merits of having published a dual autobiography with Lloyd, penned by Carol Thatcher, daughter of the Prime Minister, and published in June last year. The



Old partnership: Evert and Lloyd  
'John and I talk all the time about my matches. We're still very close'

book, *Lloyd on Lloyd*, was poorly received and generally held to portray John Lloyd in an unflattering light.

"Carol came to us right when we'd just got back together again," she says. "I wasn't for it. John and I talked it over and I didn't feel we should do it. But John was really excited. He always wanted to have a vehicle in England where he could say what he felt. He thought it would be fun."

"It was an honour for Carol to do the book, but John wanted her to because he's so much for Maggie. And we were a team. But I didn't like the way he was portrayed. I'm more sensitive to it than John is. He's still very proud of the book."

Off the court, Andy Mill, aged 34, who is going through a divorce himself, is Evert's constant companion and will travel with her throughout the summer. The two met at a New Year's Eve party in Aspen, Colorado, the ski resort where Mill lives.

"It's still a new relationship," Evert says. "It's a tough thing because John has a girlfriend in Los Angeles and I have Andy. John and I feel very respectful towards each other and we don't want to flaunt anything. We try to be low key, but we're not discrete because there's nothing to hide."

She is particularly conscious that once again she is involved with a prominent athlete, following her adolescent relationship with Jimmy Connors and her marriage to Lloyd. "I cringe at the publicity," she says. "Both relationships failed. I'm guarded now. I want to protect this."

Mill is a celebrity within US ski circles. He competed in two world championships, in 1974 and 1978, finished sixth in the downhill at the 1976 Winter Olympic Games in Innsbruck and came twelfth at the 1980 Games in Lake Placid. Currently he is the ski commentator for NBC television and has his own television show - *Ski With Andy Mill* - which is syndicated to 75 stations in US ski areas.

"In the summertime I'm pretty much free," Mill says. "So I'll travel with Chris to all the tournaments through August, when I have to go to South America."

There are no wedding plans, although Evert wears a gold signet ring where her wedding band used



Chris Evert: "A tennis career is very demanding emotionally. I probably didn't have enough left for John."

to be, with the letter "A" engraved on it. Frequently stereotyped as the girl next door and often asked when she might retire to have babies, she has not yet ruled out domesticity from her future.

"When my tennis career is over, I know I'll live a normal life with a steady relationship and have kids," she says. "I think tennis has prevented me from having normal feelings as a young woman."

The ice maiden has melted now. "I was pretty stoic in my late teens and early twenties," she recalls. "I didn't show anything on court. But now I feel more emotion and I'm enjoying my tennis. I probably show it on the court, too."

She still plans to cut back her playing schedule in 1988, but rules out retirement. "If you're good at something, why stop? Tennis is a short-lived career. 10 or 15 years. But it's a great life."

Despite her reservations about the British Press, she is looking forward to Wimbledon, where she has won the singles title three times. "There have been a few years when I should have won it but I didn't," she says. Now, though, she is gearing up for the

French Open, which she has won seven times.

Evert and Navratilova enjoy a relationship unusual in professional sport. Rivals for the number one position in the world since July 1978, when the former Czech first seized the top spot from Evert, the two have become closer friends over the years. It was Navratilova who invited Evert on the ski trip which led to meet Mill.

However, Evert invariably beats her rival in the popularity polls among American tennis fans. She believes it is a combination of an American preference for femininity and the fact that Navratilova is Czech-born.

Martina, she says, is intimidating because of her strength. "She's a premier woman athlete and she's built differently. It intimidates the public. I was brought out at 16 at the US Open. They took me to their hearts that young. When Martina complains a lot, she should remember that (a) she's number one and (b) I've been around a lot longer and I grew up in the public eye as an American."

Navratilova has also been afraid to discuss her homosexuality publicly, most recently described in her autobiography, *Martina*. She currently shares a house with a former beauty queen, Mrs Judy Nelson. Evert believes Navratilova's relationship, however, has not hurt her image. She also believes her own divorce may have less impact today than five or 10 years ago.

"Things like that are big news one day and forgotten the next. Martina's been more settled than I've been for the last few years. I just went a more traditional route."

Despite her record number of titles and her standing in the game, Evert still finds it difficult to picture herself going into the history books. "Sometimes when I go out on court," she says, "I hear my accomplishments and I think, 'My God, why am I still here? Why don't I retire right now?'"

"But I don't dwell on the past because that means I'm not into what I'm doing in the present. I don't look back and think 'Chris, you've won at least one Grand Slam title in each of the past 13 years.' I never look back."

(Times Newspapers Ltd 1987)

## Mop, don't mope

That 'treasure' of a home help may be a thing of the past

I do not employ a cleaning lady, but not for want of such a treasure. Ever since I came home one May Day Holiday to find the housekeys on the doorstep, with a note wrapped round them, I have lacked the courage to try again.

The note read: "Dear Madam. It is with great regret that I have to inform you I can no longer stand the looks I have been getting from your cat. He sits on the draining board while I am washing the dishes with his big eyes, and I have the impression he is going to tell you if I do not do it right."

When I found her note, should I have killed the cat and begged my helpmate to come back and clean the flat? I did not. I rolled up my sleeves, got out the rubber gloves, and batted her a little more with each ounce of effort expended.

Cleaning ladies, like lovers, leave when you are down, but on the whole I think they make a tactical error. If only they flounced out when everything was too good to be true, what a fond impression they would leave behind. As, imperfection took hold with every passing day, you would remember the good times.



Instead, you learn quite happily to live without them. One Filipino housekeeper I knew left without warning for Manila on New Year's Day, failing to clean up after a big party the night before. Two days later, the dirty glasses were still littering the living-room and the jilted mistress of the house cleaned everything herself, including the housekeeper's room - which was filthy. When she realized, how little time it actually took her to perform these tasks herself, she never bothered to look for a replacement again.

She understood then and there that she did not really want a cleaning lady at all. She wanted a sunny presence on the premises.

One friend thought she had found just such a delight. She fell out, not with her friendly Spanish cleaning lady herself, but with her manager, a large, ferocious male compatriot, who pocketed the earnings. When the employer went away, the couple moved into the flat, explaining that they could keep an eye on her interests much better that way. They did not, however, bother to clean the flat. "You were not here, so my client was entitled to take her holiday," the manager said.

Perhaps this is one more area in which personal contact, with all its hazards, is a thing of the past. I have seen people chatting to the dish-washing machine late on a lonely night, secure at least in the knowledge that it will not talk back or kick the cat.

Glenys Roberts  
(Times Newspapers Ltd 1987)

## This crying shame

One knows that this life is a vale of tears, but I never thought that the office was one too. Yet according to Kathleen Hoover-Dempsey, professor of psychology at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, and co-author of the report *Tears and Weeping Among Professional Women*, so much crying is done at work that it is a wonder the carpet-tiles in the corridor aren't permanently awash.

Of the women who were interviewed, 80 per cent said that they cried in the office, 20 per cent of them more than 10 times in a year. What is going on here? Only anger says the professor. The women cried because they couldn't visualize shouting back or arguing. They couldn't, huh? Well, I think in that case they should stay at home doing their paperwork, sniffing their smelling-salts and receiving the occasional tea-time visitor when they aren't too tired.

Shouting back and arguing are part of work, and if you are too fragile a flower to raise your voice, you should jack your voice, you should jack your voice, you should jack your voice.

Although nobody wants working women to clone themselves into substitute



PENNY PERRICK

men (not least because they looked so ghastly during the mercifully brief period when they took to wearing rigid suits and low-heeled shoes), they will never become chief executive of British Steel if they cry bucketfuls every time they flow-charts come in for a bit of stick.

Tears at work aren't wrong because they are womanly, but because they are unbusiness-like. The crying game should be played in private. Let your mascara run in the office and you will look as out of place there as those women who cover the corporate windowsills with African violets

and bring out their knitting during sales conferences.

Long observation of office life has shown me that so-called "manly" behaviour is the appropriate mode for working in. I am not an unqualified admirer of the average male executive, but I like his style when it comes to fighting his corner. He shouts, argues, reduces his opponent to jelly and then, a couple of hours later, joins him in the pub for "just the one".

Tears can't be dealt with so easily. Brimming eyes require hugs, compassion, promises never to do it again. Since these are impossible to provide in the workplace, colleagues feel awkward, embarrassed, and it is hard to restore a sense of civilized companionship. For productivity to flourish unhindered, a place of work needs to be somewhat impersonal.

At home it is a different matter. Cry your heart out when your lover fails to call, your child doesn't get the lead in the school play, your favourite plate gets chipped. A home without displayed emotion is a barren place. But fight back the tears between nine and five. After all, as I am sure your mother will have told you already, a job is only a job.

As a recent witness, Mary Dejevsky argues for a little more thought at court

## Face to face with a thief

FIRST PERSON



appeared keen to avoid the pitfalls they too must have read about. I was called - by Tannoy - to meet them within half an hour of arriving (except that we lost each other in the reception area for another half an hour). As yet no court room had been allocated, they said, but the accused was being encouraged to plead guilty. Ten minutes later I was told that he was still protesting his innocence and the trial would go ahead.

We were called at around 12.15pm (so the legends of judges' lunches were unfounded as well). Nor had the stories of physical deprivation been borne out. The canteen at Southwark Crown Court offers fresh warm scones and coffee that would not disgrace a respectable Italian restaurant. And you can claim the cost back as

part of your witness's expenses.

But in one respect Southwark Crown Court did conform to the stereotype of unsatisfactory court practice. For much of the waiting time I was sharing the reception area with, among others, the defendant. I was about to testify against him. He was on bail. We even shared the lift up to the courtroom - just the two of us, not a lawyer or policeman in sight.

Nor was court procedure especially reassuring. Once sworn in, you have to give not only your name, but also your address, in the hearing of the full court. Mine was a temporary address, miles from central London. But if it had been closer to Southwark Crown Court or to where the defendant lived, and if the offence had been more serious, I might not have been so willing to give it.

The defence counsel was less than courteous. Having experience of radio interviews (on both sides of the microphone), I was not perturbed. Without that experience, I might have been.

And the verdict? Despite well-intentioned promises, the police have not actually told me. It would have been a thoughtful gesture, and would have made a morning off work seem that much more worthwhile.

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## THE TIMES DIARY

### Oxford solidarity

Natan Sharansky, the Soviet dissident released last year, is to launch a series of 24-hour strikes on Thursday by Oxford University students campaigning for the release of refusenik Alexey Magarik. The Oxford Campaign for Soviet Jewry plans for one person a day to go without food until Magarik is freed from a Siberian labour camp. Tommy Gross, one of the organizers, tells me there are already enough volunteers to see the strike through until the end of term. Sharansky, one of the world's most famous hunger strikers, arrives in Britain on Wednesday for a meeting with Mrs Thatcher. He will speak to the Oxford Union the next day on "Gorbachov, glasnost and the Jews". Magarik, a talented cellist and teacher of Hebrew, was jailed in March 1986 on a drugs charge after cannabis was planted on him. Fears are now growing that Magarik may never be able to play again because the labour camp refuses to allow him protective gloves when working with dangerous fibrous materials.

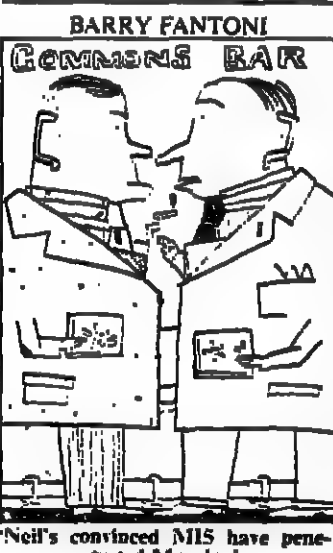
Cashing in on the Pope's controversial beatification last week of Edith Stein, the Catholic convert murdered at Auschwitz in 1942, publishers Peter Owen are rushing out a paperback collection of her theological, philosophical and feminist works this autumn.

### Space race

Labour jubilation at beating the Tories in buying up the nation's prime vacant poster sites for the election campaign may be short-lived. Roy Hattersley boasted last week that the party had staged its coup after a tip that Saatchi and Saatchi were about to book the hoardings for the Central Office. I now discover, however, that acres of poster space will become available immediately the election date is announced because most government advertising is usually suspended during the campaign. The Department of Employment's Action for Jobs is one of the largest campaigns, currently featuring on 3,000 bus sides, 3,000 bus shelters and 1,300 large poster sites. The potential of these imminent vacancies has not been lost on Tory ministers, I am assured.

### Winning way

Mrs Thatcher has melted another heart — this time that of the Japanese trade minister, Hajime Tamura. Emerging after an unscheduled 15-minute Commons chat with the PM last week, Tamura told journalists through an interpreter: "She always remained kind, with a smile which was very touching to me."



Barry Fantoni  
Neil's convinced M15 have penetrated Marjane

### Reverse side

Newspaper lawyers are understandably none too pleased by the release of details about Sir James Goldsmith's libel fund, which underwrote the expensive but successful libel action against the BBC by Tory MP Neil Hamilton and Gerald Howarth. But before Sir James is inundated with requests for help from the fund, he might ponder the implications of a little reported case in 1980 in which Lord Denning declared that "maintenance" (funding someone to bring an action against someone else) is "contrary to the civil law and public policy" unless the person funding the action "has a legitimate and genuine interest in the result of it" and agrees "to pay the costs of the other side if the action fails".

### St Mole's

GCHQ's Cheltenham home is expanding with a new 130,000 square foot office block. The construction will, however, be less than secret as it takes the form of a metal clad octagon, 88 ft high, capped with a huge glass dome. Watch out for the spy satellites.

### Chair support

The shame of it. A Greek expatriate has stepped in — where Roy Jenkins has already told me he has no intention of treading — to fight for the Oxford Chair of Byzantine and Modern Greek. Demetrios Loukatos is so shocked that the post may be axed because of lack of funds that he has written to the Greek newspaper *Cathimerini* saying he is donating a month's pension to the fighting fund to save it. In academic circles, incidentally, the chair is nicknamed "the Baywater and Kensington".

PHS

### Lawrence Norcross explains his decision to leave Highbury Grove school

## How a head's life has become unbearable

Apart from the educational consequences, the effect of such constant dislocation of the school day on the attitudes and perceptions of the pupils scarcely bears contemplation.

I don't think I am alone in finding it increasingly embarrassing trying to explain to parents why their children are having to be sent home again. The more predictable ritual protests of the half-day or one-day strike are something we have all (heads, teachers, pupils, and parents) more or less learned to live with. The unpredictability of no-cover action remains a constant and intolerable strain.

Similarly, the fact that the provision of annual or biannual reports to parents on their children's progress is entirely dependent upon teacher goodwill — often they are not provided at all or are so sketchy as to be virtually

valueless — creates tensions and barriers between teachers and parents which previously did not exist.

In the face of all these difficulties, the ILEA has seemed to many — if not most — of its heads to be unable or unwilling to provide them with any practical support whatsoever. The responsibility for this does not rest with the authority's officers and inspectors (most of whom share the dismay and despair felt by the heads), but with a failure of political will. ILEA members show no signs of being prepared to sanction effective disciplinary action against teachers, however unofficial and sometimes downright irresponsible their actions may have been. The suspicion — shared by many heads, whatever their political persuasion — is that they are not prepared to agree to any punishment of those whom

they regard as their natural allies: the far left sections of the teaching profession. This is as damaging to the morale of the many dedicated, hard-working classroom teachers as it is to that of the heads, to whom the ILEA nevertheless looks to see that its schools function effectively.

Neither does this awareness of the daily difficulties faced by heads inhibit in any way the ILEA's constant flow of initiatives and questionnaires (always apologetically introduced by some such expression as "I know what a heavy burden you are currently carrying, but..."). Most are concerned with race, gender, or sexual orientation.

To those of us who have adopted a sincere and effective anti-racist stance for far longer than many of the present ILEA members have held office, some of these initiatives are positively offensive in their implications. We did not need to wait for the present administration before being informed by a sense of decency, justice, and common humanity. I am not alone in believing that the cause of anti-racism has been done more harm than good by the ILEA's stridently pursuing its valid objectives in such a divisive way.

Faced with these twin pressures, many good committed teachers have taken the option of early retirement in their mid-fifties, or even earlier. Having reached the age of 60, I have sadly come to the conclusion that there must be more fruitful and less stressful ways of spending my time.

T.E. Utley

## Ulster: the last gasp option

I do not feel excessive tenderness towards Secretaries of State for Northern Ireland. However many mistakes they may make, these are almost certain to be blamed on the Irish. It is, politically speaking, the safest job in the Cabinet.

There is one respect, however, in which I do feel sorry for them. It is the continually recurring need to express heartfelt horror at atrocious IRA crimes which, within the constraints of government policy, they are incapable of preventing. Whatever they say inevitably sounds bland and platitudinous, as do almost all expressions of grief about mortality — and they have to do it all the time.

These politicians are for the most part good and sincere men, none more so than Tom King. There are, however, some obituary themes against which they should be warned. They should not yield to the temptation to imply that every successive atrocity by the IRA — the murder of Lord Justice Gibson and his wife is the latest dramatic example — springs from despair and is the last fling against overwhelming odds. They should also not imply, however obliquely, that these atrocities constitute some sort of justification for British policy. The argument at present is that if the Anglo-Irish Hillsborough agreement were not such a good thing, the IRA would not be so concerned to destroy it by promoting violence. This is a curious mode of thought, the logical conclusion of which would seem to be that the more terrorist crimes are committed in Ulster, the better government policy must be. After almost 20 years, that line of reasoning is wearing pretty thin.

The stark truth is that the IRA will go on fighting until it is beaten or until it has succeeded in expelling Britain from Ulster and in overturning the bourgeois Republic in the South. Hillsborough is its latest political victory, since the agreement, without improving security one jot, has totally alienated the Unionist community and confronted the British with the prospect of a war on two fronts. It has also put paid, for the moment, to all prospects of a constitutional settlement in the North acceptable to Protestants and Catholics.

So where do we go from here? We are, in my judgement, moving rapidly towards a "solution to the Northern Ireland problem" which will be almost equally distasteful to all the players in the game, except possibly the IRA — I mean an independent Northern Ireland. It will be distasteful to the British because they fear its probable result — a nervous, bigoted, unstable little state established within a few miles of their shores.

It will also be distasteful to them because it will not appeal to the Americans and the other foreign supporters of Irish unification. It will be objectionable to the Irish Republic because it will deprive it of all influence on the government of the North and of its cherished role as the protector of the Catholic minority there.

It will certainly be uncongenial to responsible Northern Ireland Unionists. Last week a number of their MPs gave a breakfast at the Savoy for the few servants of the media who were thought to be at all interested. Its theme was that the Unionists would soon put forward their own proposals for a constitutional settlement in Ulster but would not discuss them until the Hillsborough agreement was abrogated or suspended. Meantime, the policy of abstention would continue.

After the general election, the matter would come to the crunch. If Britain would not budge from the Hillsborough agreement, some of these Unionists said there would be no alternative but to embark on negotiations with a view to a separate state. The Rev Martin Smyth, then whom a Unionist is more stalwart, said, rather unrealistically, that he would opt for a federal Britain: What was perfectly clear was that all those present regarded an independent Ulster as nothing better than the only alternative to a united Ireland or the indefinite maintenance of the present intolerable stalemate.

My view is that this unpleasant alternative should now be publicly examined in order to concentrate people's minds. This might induce Mrs Thatcher to modify her present position to the extent of putting Hillsborough into some sort of partial suspension during negotiations with the Unionists: it might induce Mr Haughey to recognize that he has no interest in destabilizing Ulster and that, anyway, he is getting very little of advantage from the agreement as it presently operates. It might also persuade the Unionists to realize that if they want to remain part of the kingdom they are not well advised to absent themselves from all the kingdom's proceedings.

But I must admit that I have a lingering fear and thought. It is possible that negotiated independence, on the basis of dominion status with constitutional guarantees for the minority, would eventually prove the only tolerable way out of the deadlock. I do not believe this is the answer: I do not see any effective means of protecting the minority under that arrangement; but politics consists largely of second bests.

Philip Howard

## On the trail of Mr Average

Rule 64 of journalism — at least for the pundits: never ask questions. You are the one posturing as a know-all up there on your column and you get enough silly letters from readers to answer without inviting trouble.

Rule 65 of journalism: all rules of journalism are made to be broken, especially this one.

Sir, sir, please sir, I have a question. I can see it is impudent, but I shall burst if I do not find the answer. A few weeks ago I wrote that like most of our countrymen I am an *un homme moyen politique*, name-dropping a tag to suggest political cultivation. The Rev L.A. Garrard wrote to me asking nicely if I knew where the battered cliché *un homme moyen sensuel* came from, since he had been looking for years without success.

Easy-peasy, I thought: it will be one of those quotable Frog "M"s who crowd the quotation dictionaries. Mollere, Montaigne, Montesquieu, or de Musset. Failing them, La Rochefoucauld. So I looked in the quotation dictionaries. Then I took a trip to the London Library and looked in bigger and better quotation dictionaries. Then I asked B. Levin and other of my friends whose nodules are crammed with goblets of useless information. Then I asked literary French friends. Then I panicked.

Somebody must have written it or said it. It does not have the ring of an *unhomme moyen* or a piece of proverbial folklore. It is very odd that I cannot find the author of such a well-worn quotation. No doubt he is known by every French schoolchild. In that case, all I can say is that the French schoolchildren I have tried were exceptional.

Man is a quoting animal. It depends on one's idiosyncrasy which quotations linger in the memory, and make the hair at the nape of the neck bristle. I am haunted by lines that were penned in a summer-house by Lake Geneva 200 years ago next month: "It was among the ruins of the Capitol that I first conceived the idea of a work which has amused and exercised nearly twenty years of my life, and which, however inadequate to my own wishes, I finally deliver to the curiosity and candour of the public."

Finishing a book has the relief and sense of loss of giving birth. And for a daily hack there is something godlike about spending 20 years on a piece. Gibbon then took a walk in his avenue of

acacias. The air was temperate, the sky was serene, the silver orb of the moon was reflected from the waters, and all nature was silent: "I will not dissemble the first emotions of joy on recovery of my freedom, and, perhaps, the establishment of my fame." Marvellous. Almost as hair-bristling as the account of the beginning of *The Decline and Fall*, with the barefooted friars singing Vespers in the Temple of Jupiter.

The only poem to a work of prose to compare with it is the



Chris Wormell

opening of *The Golden Bough*, with the grim figure prowling round his sacred tree far into the night, the priest who slew the slayer, and shall himself be slain. McEachern of Shrewsbury used to call such haunting tags "spells".

Some authors are more prolific with single-liners than other, greater authors. I have never been able to get to the end of *Finnegans Wake's* stream of consciousness without skipping, but it does contain haunting spells. Sometimes a single-liner gets distorted by its quoter. It was not "Blood, sweat, and tears" that Churchill had to offer the House, but "Blood, toil, tears and sweat." I'm having in my list: *Giù per la strada senza fine amaro*. And also:

*Ariane, ma soeur, de quel amour blessée  
Vous m'entraînez aux bords où vous êtes lavée?*

That must be the only occasion in literature that that absurd tense, the French historical past or pluperfect is used to good effect. A great book is more than a congeries of glittering quotations. But there is comfort in the great single-liners. "All losses are restored and sorrows end."

### Bernard Levin: the way we live now

## As busy as a bureaucrat

There is an old story, which may be less apocryphal than is comfortable to think about, of a farmer being chivvied by the Ministry of Agriculture because he had not sent in details of crops and yields by the date specified. He wrote to say he had been very busy, as it was lambing time, whereupon the Ministry told him, severely, that he was in breach of the regulations with his delay, and should have postponed the lambing.

The gentleman in Whitehall does not know best; who, including the lambs, would think he does? But his latest wheeze, which is very far from apocryphal, is beyond patience. The Department of the Environment, whose selfless and never-ceasing efforts to destroy the environment altogether are all too little appreciated, has produced a Green Paper, for consultative purposes, about "pests", which, it seems, does not refer to officials of the Department of the Environment but to such undoubted nuisances as wasps and cockroaches. The idea behind the Green Paper is that local authorities should be given powers to destroy all the wasps, cockroaches, etc. that they can find. (A wasp can fly faster than any member of Ealing Borough Council can run, but let that pass.)

So far, so good; unless you are a wasp, a cockroach or a Buddhist, you will probably be unconcerned at the forthcoming *battue*. You may, however, pause for reflection when you learn that the DoE wishes to include bees in the list of *hostes humani generis*.

Possibly the gentleman in Whitehall was once stung by a bee; certainly he has been stung by the reaction of the Beekeepers' Association (who were not, of course, consulted in advance, or even informed, about the Green Paper), for he has tried to make the proposal look less grotesque by claiming that there is no intention of encouraging local authorities to exterminate all the bees for miles around. But he is trying to close the hive door after the bees have flown.

Apiculture is one of the earliest activities of man; there is a cave-drawing in Spain, probably at least 100,000 years old, showing two honey-gatherers climbing up to a bees' nest, and bees were domesticated almost as long ago. Moreover, the bee begins to buzz in history and literature from the earliest beginnings of both: the Egyptians have had hives for 5,000 years, and St Ambrose and Plato were among the many historical figures of whom it is related that a swarm of bees alighted on their mouths while

they were in the cradle, thus indicating that their adult words, spoken or written, would be as sweet as honey. And do not imagine that "honey" as an endearment is a 20th century American coinage; it occurs in Chaucer.

Shakespeare seems to contradict himself in his use of the bee as metaphor. In *Pericles* he gets it right: "We would purge the land of these drones that rob the bee of her honey", but in *Henry IV, Part 2* he seems to think that the drones go foraging:

*When, like the bee, calling from every flower  
The virtuous sweets,  
Our rights packed with wax, our mouths with honey,  
We bring it to the hive, and like the bees,  
Are murdered for our pains.*

And it is not only honey-gathering that is of such antiquity; the Bronze Age was familiar with the *cire perdue* method of casting, and the wax used seems to be the product of the bee. There is a curious reference to bees in Herodotus, who says that the country beyond the Ister (which we call the Danube) is impassable, owing to the swarms of bees; modern scholars say that he must have meant mosquitoes.

The Bible is in no doubt: "My son, eat thou honey", says *Proverbs*, "because it is good", but honey has been admired for purposes far removed from eating: Alexander was embalmed in it, for instance. After all, sugar has been long known (though not nearly so long as honey), but its widespread use is of fairly recent date; most of the centuries have preferred honey, a more sensible attitude. I have heard tell that Drambule incorporated honey, but I have never tried it.

Bees, of course, are held up for our emulation as the most industrious of all creatures, and have been revered for their wisdom. In some bee cultures, a black ribbon is tied to the hives when their owner dies, and in others the bees are solemnly told of his death.

Among the most wonderful of all books of natural history is Karl von Frisch's *The Dancing Bees*; when I first picked it up, more than twenty years ago, I had little interest in bees and none in bee-keeping, but by the time I finished it, two rapid and unbroken hours later, I was looking out of the window on to another world. Frisch must have been a marvelous man; in more than half a century of bee-study, he made a vast range of contributions to the knowledge of his bombinating little friends, starting in 1915 with his discovery that, contrary to the

then settled belief that bees are unable to distinguish colours, they are very substantially dependent on colour for their choice of flowers to forage among, and for orientation of the words with which he chides the old conviction are a model of what a scientific attitude should be (but too often isn't), and says more about the sweetness of his own character than the sweetness of an entire hive:

"If we use excessively elaborate apparatus to examine simple natural phenomena Nature herself may escape us. This is what happened some forty-five years ago (he was writing in 1927) when a distinguished scientist, studying the colour sense of animals in his laboratory, arrived at the definite and apparently well-established conclusion that bees were colour-blind."

"It was this occasion which first caused me to embark on a close study of their way of life; for once one got to know, through work in the field, something about the reaction of bees to the brilliant colour of flowers, it was easier to believe that a scientist had come to a false conclusion than that Nature had made an absurd mistake."

Frisch went on to discover the "language" of the bees, unsuspected before he came on the scene; he describes the "dance" that a foraging bee performs on returning to the hive, a meticulously choreographed ballet that gives her sisters an exact geographical fix on the source of provender that she has found. There is, indeed, little modern knowledge of the bee that Frisch did not either reveal or add to, and the reverence with which he approached the subject must have had a great bearing on his ability to discover so much more about it.

I do not remember ever being stung by a bee, though I did once meet a wandering queen, and made myself scarce before she arrived; apirarists insist that a bee will not sting wantonly, but I was taking no chances.

There are many millions of bees in this country, which is not surprising in view of the fact



Paula Youngs

(which is) that in a normal hive there will be quite 50,000 adult bees. Only the other day, bee rustlers stole well over a million from a bee-keeper in Norfolk, who observed, rather pertinently, that they must have been stolen by an expert, "because no one else would have been brave enough".

The only negative attitude to bees I know of is the Roman belief that a swarm of bees was a presage of disaster; just before the battle of Pharsalus, Pompey was making the appropriate sacrifice when a swarm settled on the altar; he went on to fatal defeat by Julius Caesar.

Today, it seems, the wax is on the other thigh: it is bad news for the bees when officials of the Department of the Environment are swarming. I hope the bees sting them all, on the nose, ears, knees and bum for a start. If the officials have enough sense, which is unlikely, they will withdraw the Green Paper, and replace it with a Honey-Coloured Paper on which they will write out one thousand times: The bee is not a pest.

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## Why not elections all the time?

This is exactly how we operate our electoral system. The electorate can exercise actual control only about twice a decade, and there is a marked discrepancy between votes cast and members returned to Parliament, and again between members returned and power to determine policy. The result of this combination is the unproductive confrontation between an alternating government and opposition, where all too often each government wastes its time and our wealth reversing the policies of its predecessor.

Nor can it be either comfortable or efficient for politicians to spend much of their professional lives wondering how long they have to perform the tasks they have set themselves.

Proportional representation helps reduce the instability, but leaves untouched the fundamental defect of control being too infrequent. What is needed is continuous feedback from the electorate. This could be realized by replacing general elections altogether, having instead a continuing series of by-elections in which MPs would each be returned for a fixed term of, say, five years. If we kept the same number of MPs, that would

mean a by-election, on average, every three days.

An immediate advantage to the MPs themselves is that they would not be at risk, as at present, to the government calling an election over some issue. The country would benefit from greater stability and continuity of policy, and sections of the electorate could in turn make their influence felt in a more effective way than by their present very limited powers of persuasion and influence.

In order to start the system it would be necessary for the terms of office of MPs returned in the initial election to be determined by lot in a range of about four to seven years. Thereafter, natural events would ensure that by-elections remained reasonably evenly distributed.

The benefits would be most evident in policies having long-term effects, such as education or transport, reservoirs and sewers. Governments would no longer have to show quick results in order to be successful at the next election, nor would they have the same temptation to adopt policies having short-term popularity during the run-up period.

Continuous election, especially if aided by proportional representation,

would tend to produce a balanced Parliament instead of the present conclusive majority for one party or another. This is a consequence of smooth control action replacing what an engineer would call "hunting" in automatic machinery that is, the machinery continually overshoots the desired condition, like a learner oversteering a car.

If the policy of the government did not have the support of the country, its majority would be eroded and eventually reversed by a succession of by-elections. Then, if the policy went too far the other way, it would take only a few such elections to restore the balance.

Politicians have traditionally disliked narrow majorities, but this view is not necessarily shared by electors who have seen balanced parliaments providing the best opportunity for policy being determined by reason and discussion rather than by whipping alone.

In the less confrontational atmosphere made possible by the removal of the two-party see-saw, every party would be under pressure to appear rational and open to discussion: in time even politicians might come to welcome this more constructive framework for their work. Certainly the country would be better governed, just as a car engine performs better when its driver is not oversteering.

P.F. Fellgett

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# MAKING VOTERS WALK

Of the three most famous quotations attributed to Mr Tebbit, one of them ("on your bike") he never said. Whether he said the second — the one about no one with a conscience voting Conservative — will be decided by the courts, since it is the subject of a libel action. But he did say recently, of the next general election, that the Conservatives would "walk it". If they do not, he will never be allowed to forget the remark. If they do, it would be understandable if he never lets anyone else forget it.

Whether it proves true or false, it was a complacent and hubristic thing to say at the time it was said. Yesterday Lord Young, Mr Tebbit's colleague in the inner circle which is planning electoral strategy, said that "the biggest risk we run is if people get over complacent". Quite so.

It was not clear exactly who "people" were in this context. Conservative politicians or Conservative voters? Perhaps he meant both, in which case that is hardly fair on the voters. They can hardly be blamed after being told by the chairman that the party, which many of them would otherwise go out and vote for, is going to walk it.

That they are thinking of staying at home — at least in the local elections on Thursday — is suggested by the MORI poll which we publish today. The most alarming

figure in it, for the Conservatives, is that the proportion of Labour electors likely to vote is five per cent higher than Conservatives.

The reason is not any disillusion on the part of Conservative voters. It is Conservative voters sharing Mr Tebbit's belief that their party is going to walk it — or perhaps Conservative voters being encouraged to believe that by Mr Tebbit, whose remark was reported on the television news. Fortunately for the Conservatives, the latest general election poll — MORI in yesterday's *Sunday Times* — has them winning almost as handsomely as in 1983. But in the local election poll lies a hint of the nightmare which has long haunted the Conservatives — an Alliance upsurge during the general election campaign.

That does not appear possible in the MORI general election poll. But that poll appears before any local elections. What if the Alliance captures a council here and there, or otherwise seems to do well? The resultant publicity might give it the take off it so badly needs in the general election campaign which looks like starting within days of the local results being announced.

The Alliance, because of its potential support among middle-class and skilled blue-collar voters, could eat into the Tory vote, while the bedrock Labour vote remained reason-

ably solid. Thus would be produced, not a majority Labour Government, but the hung Parliament feared or sought by so many.

It is reasonable to assume that during the election campaign, if anything as threatening to Mrs Thatcher seemed likely, the warnings sounded by the Conservatives — not least by Mr Tebbit — would rouse Tory Britain from her slumbers. But that would propose a new tactical problem for Mr Tebbit. How to treat the Alliance? He would be unwise to persist in his previous course of calling the SDP a load of socialists.

There is truth in the jibe to the extent that its leaders served in Labour governments — that Mrs Shirley Williams did, in the Tory view, a lot of damage to the education system, for example. But most voters know that socialism was what they fled from. Also, it is difficult to convince many people that the centre is extreme. That may be an unfair advantage which centrist politicians have — but that's politics, and indeed life. Far better, for Mr Tebbit's cause, to depict the Alliance as well-meaning, but muddled — even though Dr Owen for one is not particularly muddled. But Mr Tebbit's immediate problem is Tory complacency. To mangle two of those quotations, he should tell his voters to get on their feet.

# BROKEN MARRIAGE IN AUSTRALIA

Last week's collapse of the conservative Opposition coalition in Canberra, ends a marriage of convenience which has dominated Australian politics for most of the time since the Second World War. It was Sir Robert Menzies who first forged the alliance between his own Liberals and what was then the Country Party, 38 years ago.

In Australia, the Liberal Party is the main conservative party. It is the equivalent of the British Tories. But the smaller National (formerly Country) Party is essentially to the right of the Liberals. Both, however, have shades of right and left within them. The two therefore divide the centre-right, anti-Labour vote. The demise of the Opposition coalition therefore leaves the way open for a third successive Labour victory in the election which is due before next April.

By most criteria, Mr Bob Hawke looks like a prime minister in some trouble. A balance of payments deficit, high inflation and a large foreign debt, enforcing comparative austerity and causing gloom, does not sound like a prescription for electoral success.

As it is, Mr Hawke must be regretting that a succession of elections in recent years has dampened the enthusiasm of Australian voters for another one this year. The temptation to call a snap poll now, to capitalize on the present disarray of the opposition, must be almost irresistible.

The coalition's problems are part personal and part political. Neither Mr John Howard, leader of the Liberals, nor Mr Ian Sinclair of the National party, has had the right blend of flair and managerial skill to

command the automatic support of his own rank and file, let alone the rest of Australia.

The result has been discontent within their parties, and continuing threats to both leaders' authority. In the Liberal Party, the threats come from the former leader, the deposed Mr Andrew Peacock, and ultimately, perhaps, from Mr John Elliott, a wealthy businessman who is also a politician on the right of the party. In the National Party, the threat to the leader is more dramatic. It comes from Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen, the 76-year-old political fundamentalist from Queensland. It was Sir Joh's disdain for the Liberals which led him to undermine them several weeks ago by ordering his Queensland MPs out of the coalition. From then it seemed only a matter of time before internal pressures forced the alliance apart.

Politically, the anti-government coalition has been to some extent outmanoeuvred by Mr Hawke himself, who has moved the Labour party to the centre of Australian politics, thus seizing the middle ground. Despite the problems facing him, he has thereby made Labour look like the natural party of government — for the time being anyway.

Mr Howard, the leading partner in the Opposition coalition, has been described as a radical intellectual, whose views bear comparison with those of Mrs Thatcher — though they fall some way short of the policies embraced by Sir Joh (who favours, among other things, a 25 per cent flat rate of income tax). Mr Howard's cause has not been helped however by the failure of his predecessors to

treat Australia's economic ills when they formed the Federal government. Excessive public spending and growing trade union power, in a highly competitive world, were the sins of previous coalition governments as much as the present Labour one.

Comparisons have been made with Britain in the 1970s before Mrs Thatcher came to power. But in Australia's case, there is no Mrs Thatcher — just a bunch of quarrelling politicians whose parties have had the chance before and apparently failed to use it. The Opposition has therefore been in no position to profit from the problems of the party in power and arguably does not deserve to.

What happens now is open to all sorts of speculation. This is not the first time of course that the coalition has fractured and it may in time heal. It is an arrangement which makes political sense because of the Liberals' traditional strength in urban areas and the National party's following in the country. Mr Howard now talks of going it alone — and seems to have little choice. But the Liberals' chances of dislodging Mr Hawke on their own must be considered slim.

If Labour enjoys another victory at the polls, it is hoped that Mr Hawke himself uses his political good fortune for the benefit of Australia as a whole. The country needs firm and imaginative government. Given the failure of the opposition to oppose, Labour has the opportunity to fulfil this need. Indeed it has a responsibility to do so. Mr Hawke will still need all his political skill if he is to discharge this successfully.

# FOURTH LEADER

The one thing that is known for certain about the human race is that it is never content to rest on its laurels; the moment a record is broken there arises a determination to break the new one, whether it is the record for running the fastest mile, or for building the tallest skyscraper, or for sailing the Atlantic in the smallest boat, or indeed for believing the largest number of impossible things before breakfast.

The other day there was a story, recounted here, about the light-fingered gentleman who tried to break into a parked car, only to find two policemen sitting in it; it was asserted, much too brashly, that the farthest limits of illegal ineptitude had been reached.

Thus challenged, the British burglar rose to the occasion. There is now news of a malefactor who broke into a house in search of swag, and in doing so awoke the inhabitants. Realizing that they

would shortly come down-stairs, possibly armed with a poker, to investigate the suspicious noises he had been making, he dived into the cupboard under the stairs, not doubt reckoning that if he held his breath the household would decide that it had been mistaken and go back to bed. Unfortunately, he found that he had locked himself in, and when the household, sticking to the belief that there was an uninvited guest on the premises, dialled 999, the police arrived to be greeted by the sound of thumps from the cupboard, accompanied by cries of "Let me out." The police, obliging as ever, let him out, and then ran him in.

Did you ever? Chickens are reputed, not only by the foxes, to be stupid; but there is no record of a chicken that plucked and trussed itself, let alone stuffed itself with sage and onions and climbed into a pre-heated oven. What on earth is coming over British villains? How do they expect

to win the Queen's Award for Industry at this rate?

It is all very well to say that every profession has a few rotten apples in the barrel, and that we should judge by the best, not the worst. It would be easier to do so if episodes like this were not only growing more frequent, but were being treated with a dangerous complacency by those charged with upholding the standards of the trade.

Perhaps it is time for the burglars to be put on the same footing as the members of the more organized professions, and to be subject to a rigorous entrance examination and a code of discipline. It is not quite clear what would constitute conduct unbecoming for a burglar, but however loosely the principle was defined, it would surely cover the case of the man in the cupboard. Oh, and while the authorities are about it, they had better add to the entrance exam a requirement that the candidate has no history of claustrophobia.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## The muffled voice of local politics

From Councillor Ruth Lyon  
Sir, Amid all the publicity by the political parties in the Press, on radio and television during the lead-up to the local elections, one voice remains unheard. This is the voice of those who by their votes show that they believe that party politics at the local district level are at best irrelevant and at worst harmful.

Through the imposition of party whips on matters which should be decided on the basis of good management and not on party lines, through the importing of national party policies which may not be appropriate to local needs, through the denial through the party system of opportunities to use the best local talent available among the local councillors, the local electors do not obtain the quality of local government they expect.

How many people I wonder, know that at the 1983 local elections 43 councils ended up with independents or residents' associations in control? — or that at the forthcoming elections there will be 2,500 non-party candidates compared with 8,000 each for the political parties?

## Scientific threat to crofters

From Mr E. Merrill  
Sir, My family earn a living from the land. Recently an OHMS recorded-delivery letter arrived without warning. The contents informed us that we may not indulge in "cultivation; grazing; mowing; introduce stock feeding; use vehicles... likely to disturb features of interest; extract minerals including peat", without written agreement. Many more restrictions are imposed.

We are given four months to appeal. That appeal will be considered by the same body that are of the opinion that the above restrictions are necessary.

This is the grim reality at present faced by our croft and many others on the island of Islay. It is reality for any person whose land falls within a site of special scientific interest as designated by the Nature Conservancy Council. Their Islay "site" extends to 20,764 acres.

Our predominantly crofting community, as reward for success in preserving the countryside, is to be placed in servitude to the NCC.

While we try to come to terms with this onslaught from anonymous zealots, our community faces atrocity. At present our local water supply has failed: we are told no funds are available to help us. We are reduced to carrying water in buckets from wells, while thousands of pounds are spent trying to control our way of life.

Resources are thus crudely directed to the geese and plants, among others, away from people in need.

Our land may be preserved — but what about the people?

Yours,  
ERIC MERRILL,  
Claddach Croft,  
Portlaven,  
Islay, Inner Hebrides.  
April 23.

## Soviet strategy

From Mr Lionel Bloch  
Sir, The Director of the Royal Institute of International Affairs deplores "the exaggerated reaction in some Western circles to the 'threat' of a denuclearised Europe" (April 27).

In the same issue, you report Mr Chirac's statement that Mr Gorbachev's proposals may be dangerous and also the weighty arguments of Messrs Kissinger and Nixon which, in your correspondent's words, amount to a frank rejection of the Soviet leader's offer. They argue that the arms deal under consideration could create the most profound crisis in Nato's history.

This assessment was reinforced by the outgoing American commander of Nato, General Bernard Rogers, who stated again last week that without the flexible response available through intermediate range nuclear missiles, Western

## Oldfield case

From Dr Gerald Silverman  
Sir, Homosexual men of Oldfield's generation, whatever their professional future, learned early to lead a duplicitous life. That was society's fault. Some were very good at it, got hooked on it, and made careers of duplicity itself: society's gifts.

Quite logically, if their homosexuality was rumoured then doubts arose about their competence at the rest of espionage concealment. The blackmail bit is a peripheral red herring.

The paradox will always remain however, whatever happens to the current raucous rise in anti-homosexuality. You are only a really competent spy if you can deceive the vetting at recruitment and after, and it is time to go when you can do so no longer.

A truly unsafe spy is one with no secrets of his or her own.

Yours faithfully,  
G. SILVERMAN,  
11A Collingham Gardens, SW5.  
April 26.

## Auschwitz martyr

From Mr Frank Pomeranz  
Sir, If the Roman Catholic Church (report, feature, April 29) wishes to baptise, or canonise, the Carmelite nun, Edith Stein, a convert from Judaism who the Nazis did to death in the Holocaust, that is surely its business and I cannot see why it should offend the Jews, of whom I am one.

Heinrich Heine was a converted Jew and it does not offend me in the slightest that he is recognised as one of Germany's greatest poets: on the contrary, it makes me quite proud. When, under pressure, from religious zealots the Tel Aviv municipal council refused to name a street after him, a number of indignant, though impeccably Jewish, literary men gathered in what was proposed should become Heinrich Heine Street and symbolically named it that.

The world of music considers Felix Mendelssohn, another Jewish Christian, to be a good thing — which causes me no offence, either. Sister Teresa Benedicta may well have been murdered because of her Jewishness, rather than her adopted religion, but why should that stop the Catholic Church honouring her? I really fail to understand what all the fuss is about.

Yours,  
FRANK POMERANZ,  
10 Manor Avenue,  
Brookley, SE4.  
April 29.

## Balancing holidays

From the Reverend and Mrs Charles Hadley  
Sir, This year's late Easter underlines again our May Bank holiday madness. Isn't it time to get our priorities right?

Let May Day (did anyone except Harold Wilson want it?) be consigned to oblivion and the Queen's official birthday be celebrated instead.

Let Whitens be the Whitsun holiday. And let autumn share the fun: Surely St Michael (Michaelmas, September 29) or St Francis (October 4) or even All Saints (November 1) will happily be the occasion for a little recreation before the rigours of winter.

A set number of days off is one thing. Holidays, as occasions to celebrate, should be something quite different.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLES HADLEY,  
FELICITY HADLEY,  
The Rectory,  
High Street, Blagdon, Bristol.

## Student teachers

From Mr H. I. Jones  
Sir, I am delighted to read today (report, April 29) HM Inspectors are concerned at the lack of preparation for the classroom given to student teachers.

Ten years' ago, when a headmaster, I asked a student teacher coming for practice shortly what preparation he had received concerning how to start a lesson, how to gain pupils' attention, when and how to set homework. He replied: "Between these four walls, nothing. Interesting lectures on ethnic cultures, yes, but on classroom teaching, nothing."

The other day I was in contact with a student, at the same establishment, about a possible educational future and put the same question. She replied: "Nothing. The lecturers concentrate on equal opportunities (note the change of jargon) and we have received no advice on how to take lessons".

Yours,  
H. I. JONES  
(formerly Head of Brockley County School),  
3 Downs Bridge Road,  
Beckenham, Kent.  
April 29.

## Care of children

From the Headmaster of Abingdon School  
Sir, "French teachers are professors, not child-minders" — so we are loftily informed by Mr Peter Wilson (April 27). What sort of snobbery is this?

French educators may, possibly, draw a distinction between teaching and caring for children, though French teachers of my acquaintance do not generally seem unduly anxious to stand on the distinction; but it is central to the English tradition, at any rate, that teaching and caring are, if not exactly synonymous, at least entirely inter-dependent forms of activity.

It cannot be desirable, if indeed it is possible, to instruct a child without due regard for his or her personality, and to understand that personality at all completely you have to spend time and time on all sorts of petty human details and concerns.

The English style of boarding education can, at its best, represent a peculiar refinement of the concept of education as socialisation. Those of us who have the privilege of working in boarding schools can feel that we are all the more professors for being also full-time child-minders!

Yours faithfully,  
M. ST JOHN PARKER,  
Headmaster,  
Abingdon School,  
Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

## Medina treasure

From Professor Sean McGrail  
Sir, Your article (feature, April 28) on the wreck of the P & O liner Medina describes the commercial salvaging of an evidently important and valuable cargo as a "gambler's paradise".

The 1973 Wrecks Act applies only within British territorial waters and thus presumably cannot be used to protect the Medina from this exploitation. But even within territorial waters there are difficulties in ensuring that the heritage underwater is scientifically excavated and made available on public display.

Under the Wrecks Act, which is administered by the Department of Transport, wreck sites may be designated as "historic", a status roughly equivalent to that of a scheduled ancient monument. The DoT has an archaeological diving unit, based at the University of St Andrews, which can monitor and advise those who are licensed to excavate these sites; but (unlike its land equivalent, the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission/English Heritage), the DoT has no funds to

## Inject into these excavations

In addition, the DoT has to treat artifacts from these historic sites as mere salvaged wreck, under the provision of part IX of the 1894 Merchant Shipping Act.

The result is that, with notable exceptions — the Mary Rose project, for example — the excavation of important sites is under-financed, and the information and artifacts recovered from them are not being made readily available to the public.

This unsatisfactory situation would be improved by the revision of the 1894 Merchant Shipping Act to make special provisions for historic wreck, and by discussions between the relevant cultural and commercial interests to see how public and private funds can best be made available for archaeological excavation of important wreck sites and the public display of material from them.

Yours faithfully,  
SEAN MCGRAIL,  
Institute of Archaeology,  
36 Beaumont Street,  
Oxford.  
April 29.

# ON THIS DAY

MAY 4 1896  
The fall of Khartoum in 1898 was followed by the death of the mahdi, who was succeeded by the Khalifa Abdullah. Despite the defeat of his Derwish army at Toki in 1899, he continued to wage war in Sudan and it was not until the battle of Omdurman on September 2, 1898, that his power was finally broken.

## THE SUDAN EXPEDITION.

(From Our Special Correspondent.)  
WADY HALFA, APRIL 18.  
As I have explained in my last letter, for other correspondents and myself, having ridden from Assuan to Korosko, decided to send on our horses and camels by road from that place and to take passage on the first passing steamer, so as to reach Wady Halfa without delay. On April 10, the day after our arrival at Korosko, we learnt that five Government steamers laden with army rations had left Assuan for the south in the evening of the first of these, a stern-wheeler towing three deeply-loaded tugboats, come in sight and was signalled to stop by our friend the commandant in order that we might board her.

We steamed up the river for two nights and a day and reached Wady Halfa on the morning of April 12. The south wind blew strong during the voyage, so that we were outstripped by some of the many sailing tugboats, laden with munitions of war and sleepers for the railway, which drove rapidly through the opposing current, each under her two great lateen sails, bellying out, trimmed on one or either side, goosewinged. There appears to be now no lack of vessels for transport up the river so far as Wady Halfa, and the base can be supplied without delay. It was daylight when we passed the most memorable landmarks of this portion of the Nile — the village and battlefield of Toki and the line of march of the gallant Nejmehi still strewn with the bleached bones of his fanatic followers; and, further up, the marvellous rock temples of Abu Simbel, and the base of the river cliff, where the colossal statuary figures with impressive faces look out upon the Nile. The country was of the same character as that we had traversed on our ride from Korosko; on either side of us, as we ascended the river, stretched the thin green line of palms and various crops, irrigated by water-wheels, backed by the sand hills, the bare brown rocks, and the fantastic peaks of the desert.

Those among us who passed through Wady Halfa during the last campaign, on revisiting it now, express their astonishment at the great changes that have taken place within the last few years. The presence of energetic British officers here, as in many other waste places of the earth where we have the outposts of our Empire, has introduced civilization and prosperity; there is but little of the savagery of the East apparent at this station; everything is well ordered, and Wady Halfa, which a desert track was a congregation of a few mud huts, is now a pleasant place to look upon. We disembarked in front of the military lines, and the authorities placed at our disposal some of the houses which have been built for officers' quarters. The Egyptian Government has constructed extensive barracks at Wady Halfa capable of accommodating quite 4,000 men. These buildings are comfortable, wholesome, and well ventilated, and at present the 1st Battalion of the North Staffordshire Regiment as well as the Egyptian and Sudanese troops are quartered in them without undue crowding. The whole station has a smart, bright, clean appearance, in great contrast, no doubt, to what it was in the old days. A pleasant and characteristic indication of British influence is seen in the gardens which surround the officers' quarters, where from the irrigated desert sand spring and blossom luxuriantly the roses, sunflowers, and other flowers of our own country.

Wady Halfa, at this season of the year, appears to be one of the windiest and driest places on earth. Since I have been here a strong wind, often freshening to a gale, has been blowing up the river.

## In praise of aunts

From Mr Jack Adrian  
Sir, Aunts (letters, April 24, 29). The acknowledged expert was P. G. Woodhouse, although he had a poor view of the breed as a whole. One, however, stands out like a good deed in a naughty world: Aunt Dahlia. So, for the benevolent aunt "dahlia". For the kind of aunt who cabs broken bottles and kills rats with her teeth there can be no other word but "agathic".

Yours sincerely,  
JACK ADRIAN,  
Clematis Cottage,  
Bury End Street,  
Cradley, Nr Malvern,  
Hereford & Worcester.

From Mr M. Knapp  
Sir, "It is no use telling me there are good aunts and bad aunts. At core they are all alike. Sooner or later out pops the cloven hoof". Bertie Wooster's dictum (in *The Code of the Woosters*), first encountered many years ago, left me with a feeling, quite unworthy, that aunts as a class are somewhat suspect.

Yours sincerely,  
MARTIN KNAPP,  
1 Brookling Barn,  
Asprington, Totnes, Devon.











## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

## BOOKING KEY

\* Tickets available  
\* Returns only

## THEATRE

## LONDON

\* **BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS** Neil Simon's vivid recollection of a Brooklyn childhood. Dorothy Tutin in an NT transfer. Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-838 6404, or 01-879 5233). Tube: Holborn. Mon-Fri 7.30-8.45pm, Sat 8.30-10.15pm, matinee Wed 5.15pm, Sun 5.15pm, £4.50-£13.50.

\* **CANARIES SOMETIMES SING** Lonsdale's 1929 comedy: two couples wonder if they would be happier with different mates. Aldwych Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-838 6404, or 01-879 5233). Tube: Holborn. Mon-Fri 7.30-8.45pm, Sat 8.30-10.15pm, matinee Wed 5.15pm, Sun 5.15pm, £4.50-£13.50.

\* **DIARY OF A SOMEBODY** Dramatized version of Joe Orton's frank diaries, expanded from a NT Platform Performance. Kings Head Theatre, 15 Upper Street, N1 (01-226 1916). Tube: Highbury & Islington/Angel. Tues-Sat 8.00pm, Sun 8.00pm, £5. Extended until 6 June.

\* **THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA** Glenda Jackson and Joan Plowright in Lorca's play of female sexual frustration. A comic woman weakens the impact. Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (01-879 5677, or 01-741 9939). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.10pm, Sat 8.30-10.40pm, matinee Sat 5.15pm, £5-£14.

\* **MACHETE** Adrian Noble's imaginative production from Stratford 86. Jonathan Pryce a ferocious regicide. Sold out until June. Barbican Theatre, Barbican Centre, EC2 (01-828 8795). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate. Mon and Tues, Thurs-Sat 7.30-9.45pm, matinee Thurs and Sat 2.30pm, £5.50-£12, until July 4.

\* **SARCOPHAGUS** By the Science Editor of Pravda, a play about Chernobyl. Whatever else, welcome evidence of glasnost. PN Theatre, Barbican Centre, EC2 (01-828 8795). Tube: Barbican/Moorgate. Mon-Sat 7.30-9.45pm, matinee Thurs and Sat 2.30pm, £5.50-£12.

\* **SERIOUS MONEY** Caryl Churchill's over-the-top musical play about the Big Bang and City greed. Recommended. Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, SW1 (01-730 1745). Tube: Sloane Square. Mon-Sat 8.10pm, matinee Sat 4.45-6.30pm, £2-£5.

\* **SPOOKHOUSE** Set above a Coney Island ghost train Gwen Taylor's nightmare Jewish mormon tales of terror and evil hearts in Harvey Fierstein's new play. Hampstead Theatre Club, Avenue Road, NW4 (01-722 9301). Tube: Swiss Cottage. Sat 8.10pm, £7. Matinee Sat 4.30-6.15pm, £2. Membership £2.

\* **THREE SISTERS** Strongly cast Chekhov in a new translation by Michael Frayn. Greenwich Theatre, Crooms Hill, SE10 (01-858 7755). Station: Greenwich. Mon-Sat 7.30-9.45pm, matinee Sat 2.30-5.30pm, £2-£7.50, until May 2.

\* **UP ON THE ROOF** Three steps down Memory Lane. 1979, 1980, 1985, as five students learn the ups, downs and cool-cas of adult life. Clever performances. Donmar Warehouse, 41 Earlham St, WC2 (01-240 8230). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Fri 7.30-10.00pm, £5-£5.

\* **WHEN I WAS A GIRL I USED TO SCREAM AND SHOUT** Dawn French and Sharon Duce as two adolescent girls eagerly entering the remarkable world of Scottish sex. Generally successful transfer from the Bush. Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall, SW1 (01-870 7765, or 01-879 6565). Tube: Charing Cross/Embankment. Mon-Thurs 8.00pm, Fri and Sat 8.45-10.15pm, £5-£14, until Sat 8.00pm, £5-£13.50.

\* **WOMAN IN MIND** Poignant Ayub-Khan drama with Pauline Collins as a wife at her wit's end. Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-896 9987, or 01-240 7200). Tube: Charing Cross.

## FILMS

\* Also on national release  
\* Advance booking possible

\* **CHILDREN OF A LESSER GOD** (15): Polished version of the Broadway play, with William Hurt as the teacher of deaf children, emotionally involved with a former pupil (Marlee Matlin) (11 min). Empire Leicester Square (01-479 0200). Progs 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 10.00. £2.50-£5.00.

\* **THE COLOR OF MONEY** (15): Paul Newman returns to the pool table in a belated sequel to *The Hustler*. With Tom Cruise as the young protégé. Directed by Martin Scorsese (115 min). Cannon Cinema (01-852 5066). Progs 2.40, 5.40, 8.30, 10.30. £2.50-£5.00.

\* **CRIMES OF THE HEART** (15): Three sisters wrestle with their past and present lives. Polished, studied version of a Pulitzer Prize play, with Jessica Lange, Sissy Spacek and Diane Keaton (105 min). Odeon Haymarket (01-839 7657). Progs 2.15, 5.45, 8.30.

\* **THE CURE IN ORANGE** (R): Opened May 1st, waiting for a review. Cannon Cinema Oxford Street (01-635 0510). Progs 1.20, 3.40, 6.00, 8.25.

\* **DANCING IN THE DARK** (15): After 20 years of slaving for her husband, Edna decides to free herself (Julie Christie) (110 min). Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-635 0148). Progs 1.15, 3.35, 5.55, 8.15.

\* **FAREWELL** (PG): Elm Klenov's stark film about the destruction of an island village faced with flooding: crammed with natural beauty and powerful peasant faces (140 min). Camden Plaza (01-485 2443). Progs 1.20, 3.45, 6.10, 8.40.

\* **THE FLIGHT OF THE NAVIGATOR** (R): Joe Crater as the boy who serves as navigator on a distant planet's space flight (90 min). Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527). Progs 1.15, 3.35, 6.00, 8.25.

\* **THE FOURTH PROTOCOL** (15): Old-fashioned entertainment based on Frederick Forsyth's novel about the Soviet plan to sabotage NATO with a covertly assembled atomic bomb in Iceland (119 min). Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-635 0148). Progs 1.15, 3.35, 5.55, 8.15.

\* **HAUNTED HOUSE** (PG): Gene Wilder's mild parody of the haunted house genre, with Gene Wilder and Gilda Radner as the family under attack by a country mansion, and Dom DeLuise in drag as "Aunt Kate" (95 min). Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-635 0148). Progs 1.15, 3.35, 5.55, 8.15.

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THE ARTS

Survival course

Bertrand Russell gave Socrates only alpha-minus for courage, deducting points for the great man's "strong certainty" that his soul would survive death. There are secular humanists around now who would agree with him. To an agnostic, bleakly contemplating his own death, a belief in an after life, in Heaven above, is an unfair advantage.

But then, outside those sanctified Sunday walls, Heaven is rarely talked about, at least not by the respectable. These days only zealots, curiously self-described as born-again Christians, and gentle skinheads in saffron robes, ever trouble the air with thoughts of paradise, for which behaviour, of course, they are widely regarded as the new vulgarisms.

So it was admirably challenging of the BBC's religious programmes department to

TELEVISION

come up with a television series called *When I Get to Heaven* (BBC1). Not, mark you, *I Get to Heaven*, let alone *the fashionable scepticism of is there a Heaven?* And this in an age of a ecclesiastical doubt when the new theologians define God as the state of ultimate concern and Heaven as a state of mind.

In fact, the programme's title is a mild deception. It is a series of 35-minute interviews with famous or distinguished people who are placed, as it were, at Heaven's gate and asked to review their own lives, like the mythical drowsing man. The interviewer, a sort of benign gatekeeper, is Bishop Richard Holloway.

Last night's subject, Sir Laurence Van Der Post, talked as though his life, if not his after-life, depended on it. He talked about the death of apartheid in his South African boyhood, of being sentenced to death by the Japanese (he talked his way out of it), of exploring the dream-world of the Kalahari bushmen and of discovering the doors of perception unlocked by Jung. His idea of Heaven, as something sensed when the walls of consciousness are at their most fragile, was the more reassuring for being vague.

Michael Dean

# The spectacle of old Egypt

A lavish production of *Aida*, beneath the temple of Rameses II at Luxor, has its own kind of drama. Gavin Bell reports

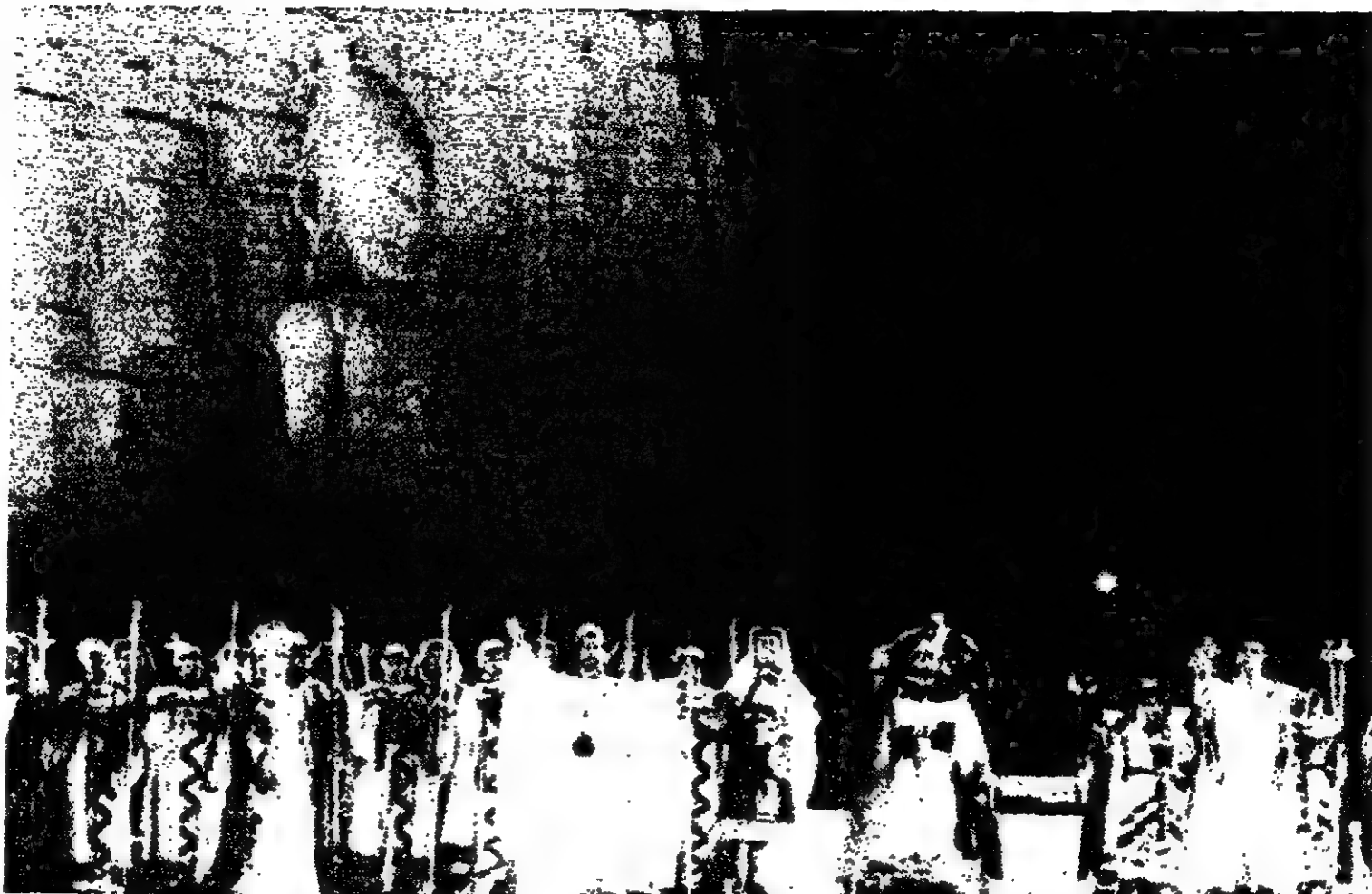
**Y**ou could tell that Rameses II was not impressed. Throughout one of the most lavish productions in opera history, his colossal gazed down with massive indifference as hundreds of Pharaonic warriors, priests and Nubian slaves swirled around his temple at Luxor, the site of ancient "hundred-gated" Thebes.

Unfortunately, a discerning audience of more than 3,000, who had paid about a million dollars to watch a gala performance of Verdi's *Aida* in its authentic Theban setting on Saturday, was also disappointed. Despite a spectacular procession along an illuminated avenue of sphinxes that drew cries of "bravo", the event was marred by inadequate sound reproduction, barking dogs, a reluctant obelisk and a crate of soft drinks.

As a spectacle, it was magnificent. As a musical drama, it was a flop. Plácido Domingo and Maria Chiara, as the doomed lovers, struggled valiantly to project their passion and tragedy, but to little avail. The power of stirring arias and poignant duets was lost to all but the assembled royalty in the presidential box, and those who had paid £400 for front-row seats.

The first act came perilously close to fiasco when Domingo's declaration of love in "Celeste Aida" evaporated like mist over the adjacent Nile. It was almost like watching a silent movie. The acoustic improved in the remaining three acts, but not enough to overcome the occasional canine contribution, and an altercation with a bus driver who had honked his horn on the riverside corniche. It could have been worse. Until the final dress rehearsal, the organizers had been struggling with a labyrinth of artistic and logistical problems that would have done justice to a Cecil B. DeMille extravaganza.

The Egyptian Antiquities Organization objected — they felt that the fragile temple ruins would be weakened by the thousands of spectators and performers. There was a succession of technical hitches and an unseemly row with the local authorities over their cut from ticket sales. Dennis Wayne, the American choreographer, was over-



Spectacular — but is it opera? Plácido Domingo (far right) as Rameses, the doomed lover, is also doomed to insanity beneath a statue of Rameses

heard to remark, after a rehearsal, that half of the 50 dancers of the Verona Opera were stupid and the other half could not dance. Earlier he complained he had had to re-choreograph the entire opera in three days, after learning that men and women are not allowed to dance together in Egypt.

A British engineer said the 40,000 seats had been held up for three weeks at Alexandria by an unexpected demand for £30,000 in transportation costs. Maria Chiara's husband furiously berated a hotel manager for a lack of hot water with which to remove her heavy make-up.

At the temple, efforts to direct 300 overawed Egyptian soldiers in their unfamiliar roles as Pharaonic warriors ended in chaos. On arrival 100 horses kicked up clouds of dust that obscured both stages and would have given the audience a good impression of being caught in a Saharan sandstorm. In the end, it was decided to reduce the hosts of cavalry and soldiery by two thirds,

and to lay woven mats around the stages and the orchestra dais.

The bemused but helpful Egyptian authorities did their best. Traffic around the area was banned, aircraft flight-paths were re-routed, mosques were instructed to remain silent during the performance (no mean feat during the holy month of Ramadan), and street lights along the corniche were switched off.

**T**he arrival of Domingo mid-way through the first dress rehearsal eased some of the tension. Excitement mounted throughout the day of the performance as royalty of varying degrees of importance swept into the luxury hotels. Rumours abounded that the Prince of Wales was flying from Italy. Liz Taylor had been spotted in Cairo and was on her way. Princess Stephanie of Monaco was definitely in the Sheraton. Counterfeit tickets were said to be exchanging hands for \$1,000. In the event, it was Queen Sophia of Spain who arrived to take her place in the presidential

box with Queen Noor of Jordan and Stephanie's sister, Princess Caroline.

As the audience settled, spotlights illuminated the soaring outer walls and columns of the 3,500-year-old temple and the hieroglyphs of its remaining obelisk, the twin of that which stands in the Place de la Concorde. A succession of speeches by local dignitaries caused a stir of unease, as nobody could hear what they were saying, which led to gibes and cat-calls, gradually swelling in a crescendo of drumming feet. The speakers smiled graciously, evidently unaware that this was not a gesture of approval.

The climax was slightly spoiled by the failure of Nubian slaves to raise a second obelisk in time with the music. The hydraulic machinery brought in to facilitate their task moved agonizingly slowly, and the edifice was still rising after the act had ended. Less forgivable, in the view of some spectators, was the sight of a crate of soft drinks that had been left beside the obelisk and

sat there inconspicuously throughout the performance.

Applause at the end of the five-hour event was polite rather than enthusiastic, and there were no calls for encores. By that time it was 2am, and most of the audience was cold and tired. The prevailing view was that it had been a splendid spectacle and the cast had probably sung well, if only they could have been heard properly.

It is anybody's guess, though, whether Fawzi Mirwaili, a Vienna-based Egyptian oil trader and carpet dealer, will recoup the \$6.25 million he claims to have spent in staging the series of 10 performances.

Certainly the occasion did not augur well for the remaining performances, featuring singers of less renown than Domingo and Chiara. It is to be hoped that improved acoustics will be available to the National Theatre when it takes its production of *Antony and Cleopatra*, starring Anthony Hopkins and Judi Dench, to the pyramids later this year.

DANCE

Intravenous Riverside

Scream Gardner Centre, Brighton

Two dance productions on successive nights showed very different approaches to making a theatrical spectacle. Both use sexual desire as a motivating force but there all similarities end.

Jorma Uotinen, who got the Brighton Festival's dance programme off to an excellent start, is Finnish. His British debut reveals his talent as austere and controlled but theatrical for all that. His *Scream* is virtually a 45-minute solo because, although he is supported by Helena Lindgren, she makes only brief, static appearances.

The music is Schubert's "Death and the Maiden" Quartet, and I have never come across a more imaginative choreographic use of this frequently-danced score. Uotinen follows the music in his emotions, not his steps. Although some passing moments reveal that he must have a strong technical background, he is more concerned to construct his dance from simple, expressive gestures.

Matthew Hawkins always went in for outrageous costumes. Now that he has gathered a company, Intravenous Dancers Group, he is staging spectacles on a shoestring budget. *Intravenous* goes from a musical comedy version of the *toilette of Venus*, via a sketch that inverts the story of Eve, to a "March to the Scaffold" with Hawkins as a baroque punk germ assisted by a "naughty virus" attacking an immune system.

The plot frequently becomes muddled but there is a lot of lively, camp humour. He makes fun of ballet among other targets, with pointe shoes (worn by men of course) and tates of unexpected cut. All the same, his own dancing, tantalizingly brief, shows his classical background as well as his rebellious outlook, and the best section of the show is the long, abstract finale to disco music, during which he ingeniously conceals to some extent the disparate abilities of his enthusiastic cast.

John Percival

ROCK

Bruce/Nannini/Sting  
Schauspielhaus, Hamburg

The gathering of such an unlikely trio of talents, to perform a selection of songs from the work of Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill, was the brainchild of the New Age composer and conductor Eberhard Schoener who is, loosely speaking, a German equivalent of Jean-Michel Jarre.

The idea was for a unique gala event: two shows on the night, recorded for German television, but consigned to history thereafter. It would indeed have been hard to duplicate the sense of occasion that prevailed in the intimate, curfewed splendour of this baroque theatre as the curtain rose on Schoener's traditional orchestra, numbering 40 or more musicians, playing the overture to *The Threepenny Opera*.

Sting appeared, a vision of the New European Man dressed suitably in black, to sing "Mac the Knife", and wrestled good-humouredly



Unlikely devotees of the Brecht/Weill canon: Sting (left), Jack Bruce and Gianna Nannini

with the lyrics, which for most of the show were to be performed in the original German. While the voguish interest in Weill has led to a variety of souped up versions of his work by rock musicians, notably on the 1985 collection *Lost in the Stars*, on which Sting participated, this performance adhered to the spirit of the works as written.

The Italian rock star Gianna Nannini, another long-standing devotee of the Brecht/Weill canon, made her strong-

gest contributions singing a selection of material from *Mahagonny*, including a dramatic performance of "The Alabama Song". Also dressed in black, and with a rough edge to her sensuous voice, she carried something of the streetwise mien that is associated with Chrissie Hynde. There was a powerful chemistry to her duet with Sting on "Love Song".

But it was Jack Bruce, now a German resident, who was the biggest surprise. He sang

"Lost in the Stars" fortissimo with towering conviction, and then played an inspired instrumental arrangement of "Bilbao Song" on bass guitar. His resonant vocal style and familiarity with the language did the most justice to the alternately biting choruses and shambling fairground cadences of Weill's often sleazy lyrics to the decadent *Weillenschaung* of an era so often recalled in the Eighties.

David Sinclair

OPERA

Daphne  
Grand, Leeds

working with Hofmannsthal any more. Where the friction between those two seems to have fuelled the tension between the domestic and the mythic in *Elektra* and *Ariadne auf Naxos*, Joseph Gregor, the librettist of *Daphne*, was obviously not up to providing the same opposing force. The feeling is now almost unrelievedly homely. Gaea, the mother figure, retains odd scraps of memory that she was once Herodias and Clytemnestra, but mostly she is a Hausfrau, concerned at her daughter's fancifulness, and irritated when her husband brings home a strange guest. *Daphne* is the adolescent who cannot face growing up, and

who miraculously gets away without doing so.

This successful head-in-sand manoeuvre may help to explain Strauss's attraction to the subject in 1936-37. And his wish to ignore what was happening may not be irrelevant to the curious sense in *Daphne* of a composer idling. So much of Strauss plays itself in the twilight; but usually one can see the darkness approaching. Here, though, it is as if we had been invited indoors, the curtains fully closed, for a comfortable game of charades.

Of course, one can hardly castigate Strauss for that; and yet it is odd that the game should be played so much with figures from his earlier operas: the lucid orchestral opulence of *Ariadne*, the mother-daughter relationships I have already suggested, the crucial intrusion of a dominant tenor outsider as in *Elektra* or *Ariadne* again. In every respect the feebleness of the same gesture in *Daphne* might be taken for a disavowal, as if Strauss were saying: Look, I didn't mean it; these things are not so important... But *Daphne* is too weak a being to damage her elder sisters.

Philip Prowse's designs and production give her every help at first, with a charming scene of gilt-faced sheep and high hedges around a central plat-

form, and with labourers in stolid charcoal-grey to offset *Daphne's* floating white cotton. If in its later stages the production goes haywire, it certainly has some excuse in the inconsequential character of the plot. But ladies in flowing robes rushing from one side of the stage to the other are never a good idea, especially if they look like Turandots dressed in imitation *Elektra*, and the appearance of Apollo as a schoolmaster and then as a gent in white tie is lacking somewhat in plausibility. The transformation scene is unmagical, too.

Helen Field gives an effective central performance of erotic virginity and, though she could afford a little more radiance, even the moments of upper-register harshness add to the neurotic effect. The Apollo is no godly interloper, but Peter Jeffes as Leukippos recovered from a poor start to sing out proudly in the last scene, even while still sounding baritone. Sean Rea contributes a steady Peneios and Patricia Payne a characterful Gaea. David Lloyd-Jones, conducting, keeps this potentially sluggish score on the go and, though his brass had an unhappy night on Saturday, there was a dependable pastoral pleasure in the oboes and clarinets.

Paul Griffiths

## The delusion of communication

RADIO

Most of us were astonished when the Argentines, all out of the blue, walked into the Falklands in 1982. And then to find ourselves embroiled in a war at a distance of 8,000 miles for the sake of a dwindling population of less than 2,000 on some extremely uninviting territory in the South Atlantic — surely it need never have come to that.

We were of course the victims of the Great Communications Delusion: inundated with information of all kinds, our capacity for handling it is quickly swamped — yet we live in the belief that we know what is going on. On top of that we make no allowance for the fact that the information we do get is already highly selected. A topic has to reach a certain pretty intense level of excitement before it qualifies in the minds of newsmen for much attention. South Africa, for instance, seems to be in a state of permanent qualification, while any tyrannies practised by black African governments on their own people rarely seem to qualify at all. Starving Ethiopians rapidly became a media event; four million or so Afghan refugees do not. Somehow the non-qualifiers, no matter how deserving of attention, lack an element of drama and, until 1982, it was the same with the Falklands. Then suddenly they made the headlines. Unaware that what we then saw was only the culmination of a long, unreported and therefore non-existent process, we were accordingly astonished.

It is the ingredients of that process which Michael Charlton in *The Little Platoon — The Long Struggle for the Falklands* (Radio 3, Sundays)

is beginning to lay bare. Two programmes in (out of a total of eight), it is already clear that this is a most valuable series. The problem of the Falklands, we now realize, goes back a couple of hundred years. In 1771 Dr Johnson, no less, was arguing that this "tempest-beaten barrenness" was not worth a fight. Mr Charlton has sketched in that distant past, but his main interest is in the last 17 years. To pursue this he has spoken to ministers and officials who were involved, both British and Argentinian, and they are filling in the details of an engrossing canvas. Early on it seemed that the dispute was close to solution. The islanders were against it, but they would come round. They did not, and, as Argentina's political complexion became increasingly unattractive, both Commons and Cabinet turned against any idea at all of yielding sovereignty. At that point few people envisaged war, but we are beginning to see the innumerable pieces drop into place, which eventually rendered it inevitable.

The impression, authentic I am sure, is of a process in which many strands interweave — some dominating for a while before giving way to others. Michael Charlton and his producer, Cathy Wearing, have made a splendid job of organizing their material and Mr Charlton's own narration is a joy: low-key and often witty, it has very largely avoided that ponderousness which has sometimes marred his broadcasts in the past.

While *The Little Platoon* is at home exposing the uncertainties, contradictions and ambiguities of international politics, it seemed to me that David Henshaw, presenting *First Lady of the Revelation* (Radio 4, Tuesday, repeated Friday), would have preferred Rosario Murillo, wife of President Ortega of Nicaragua, to have been easier to classify. The leading figures of revolutionary governments should be austere, drab if possible and a little humourless. Well, Mrs Gorbachov has shown otherwise, while Rosario plainly started out with a taste for

chic, flamboyance and a bit of fun. An attractive person; and it would be nice to find her, as Henshaw seemed to hope, incapable of dubious propaganda or of applying censorship. I was not persuaded of her incapacity and indeed rather warmed to the Contra who took his interviewer to task for implying that, because Rosario is a poet of sorts, she ought to be some better form of human being. The lives of the poets, going back over the millennia, imply mostly the exact opposite.

David Wade

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## Implied authorization point not put to jury

**Regina v Galvin**  
Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Farquharson and Mr Justice Gatehouse

[Judgment May 1]  
A jury trying the managing director of a company for breach of the Official Secrets Act 1911 were not directed to inquire whether they were sure that the Ministry of Defence had impliedly authorized dissemination of a "restricted" document — a manufacturer's manual relating to the Rolls-Royce Olympus aero engine.

Consequently the convictions of Peter Anthony Galvin, managing director of Aviation and Marine International Ltd (AMIL), for unlawful reception of a document contrary to section 2(2) of the 1911 Act and conspiracy to use information for the benefit of a foreign power (Argentina) contrary to section 1(1) of the Criminal Law Act 1977 and section 2(1)(aa) of the 1911 Act, as added to the Official Secrets Act 1920, were quashed.

The appellant was convicted at Warwick Crown Court (Judge Harrison-Hall and a jury) and sentenced to six months' imprisonment on the count of unlawful reception and one day concurrent for the conspiracy. He received two years' imprisonment on his plea of guilty to corruption and handling.

The Court of Appeal held that the words of sections 2(1)(a) and 2(2) of the 1911 Act unambiguously defined the type of material which was protected, the type of person who was under a duty not to communicate it, the circumstances under which the recipient of such communication might be guilty of an offence and the matters which might offer him an excuse.

Section 2(2) of the 1911 Act provides: "If any person receives any... document or information knowing or having reasonable ground to believe at the time when he receives it that the... document or information is communicated to him in contravention of the Act... he shall be guilty of an offence."

Section 2(1) provides: "If any person having in his possession or control... any... document... which he has obtained... owing to his position as a person who holds... a contract made on behalf of Her Majesty or... is... employed under a person who holds... such... contract... (a) communicates the... document... to any person, other than a person to whom he is authorized to communicate it... shall be guilty of [an offence]."

Mr Jonathan Caplan, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr Jeremy Roberts, QC, for Mr David Farrer, QC, for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the reserved judg-

ment of the court, said that the Olympus engine was used to power the Vulcan bomber operated by the RAF until the aircraft became obsolete in 1980 and was still used in Concorde. In 1981 on the demise of the Vulcan aircraft the Ministry of Defence sold a large quantity of Olympus aero-engine parts to a company dealing in second-hand aero-engine spares.

The tender document contained Rolls-Royce part numbers and the corresponding MoD/Nato reference numbers. Some parts themselves had the MoD and Nato numbers indelibly stamped on them. Many of the parts were common to the Olympus aero and marine engines.

At about the time of and after the Falklands war, Argentina wanted spares for its Olympus marine engines. Despite the fact that, surprisingly, Rolls-Royce refused to supply spares directly or indirectly to the Argentines.

Eventually the Argentines started negotiations with CAS. Rolls-Royce refused point blank to supply them with any spares. Another firm, Taylors of Stafford had large quantities of the Olympus parts but it proved impossible without a copy of the Olympus AP, the manufacturer's manual, which they did not have, to identify whether they had those parts required by the Argentines.

CAS therefore set about obtaining the document by somewhat recondite means, no doubt believing, wrongly, that by supplying those parts to the Argentines they were committing a criminal offence, and so wishing to conceal so far as possible the nature of their business.

A Mr Tucker, manager of military projects in CAS, had a friend named Colin Bain, who had contacts with the MoD and one of his contacts was a chief technician called Owen in a War Office technical library which contained a copy of the Olympus AP. Bain got Owen to lend him the Olympus AP.

It was photocopied with the word "restricted" having first been obliterated from all the pages on which it appeared. The original then went back to Owen, who had no idea what had been happening to it meanwhile. He of course got no reward. Bain did. The amount was not clear.

It was important to see the extent to which by early summer 1984 the Olympus AP had become available to people outside the circle of those to whom publication had originally been restricted.

No restrictions were placed by the MoD on resale by Taylors or on dissemination of the tender document.

The prosecution case was that when Bain communicated the Olympus AP to CAS he was acting in contravention of section 2(1)(a) and Galvin knew or

had reasonable cause to believe that that was the case.

The document was obtained by Bain as described in section 2(1)(a) because he obtained it owing to his employment under contract to MoD, that is, a contract made on behalf of her Majesty.

There was evidence on which the jury could properly conclude so as to feel sure that he was not authorized to communicate it to CAS or Galvin. He communicated it to CAS and Galvin.

Galvin, to turn back to section 2(2), had reasonable cause to believe that the document was communicated to him in contravention of section 2(1)(a). Mr Caplan submitted to the trial judge that there was no case for the appellant to answer. That submission was rejected by the judge and Mr Caplan contended that that decision was wrong.

He based much of his argument on the fact that, if the contents of the prosecution were correct, the reception of all sorts of documents and information might well fall foul of the Act when the information or document might be freely available to all and sundry and could not possibly be regarded as either "official" or "secret".

He suggested that Parliament could not have intended that those sections should cast their net so wide and he drew attention to the long title of the Official Secrets Act 1889, which was the precursor of the 1911 Act.

His Lordship said that one could have regard to the title of a statute to help solve an ambiguity in the body of it, but it was not open to a court to use the title to restrict what was otherwise the plain meaning of the words of the statute simply because they seemed to be unduly wide.

Mr Caplan sought to derive help from *ditta* of Mr Justice Marchand in *R v Boyer* (1948) 94 CCR 191 a decision of a five-judge Quebec Court of Queen's Bench (Appeal Side). His judgment dissented from the judgments of the majority and, in any case, what he said did not accord with the judgment of Mr Justice Avory in *R v Crisp and Homewood* (1919) 93 JP 121 which, in their Lordships' view, correctly expressed the law.

The words of sections 2(1)(a) and 2(2) of the Act were not susceptible to the interpretation which the appellant sought to put on them. They unambiguously defined the type of material which was protected, the type of person who was under a duty not to communicate it, the circumstances under which the recipient of such communication might be guilty of an offence and the matters which might offer him an excuse.

However desirable it might be for those sections to be construed in the way that Mr Caplan invited their Lordships

to construe them, it would be going beyond their proper powers to do so.

That, however, was not the end of the matter. One of the matters which the prosecution had to prove under section 2(1)(a) was that Bain, the communicator of the information, was not authorized to communicate it to the recipient, Galvin.

Authorization might be either express or implied. No difficulty arose over the express aspect.

Implied authorization was not so easy to define. There were obvious parallels with the situation in civil law where a person who had received confidential information from another was under an obligation (enforceable by action) not to disclose that information or use it for his own or someone else's benefit. *Franchi v Franchi* ((1967) RPC 149) and *Interfirm Comparison (Australia) Pty Ltd v Law Society of New South Wales* ((1977) RPC 137).

The provisions of the 1911 Act caused enough trouble without additional complications. In the present case there were two such complications.

All or almost all of those concerned with the transactions were, it seemed, under the erroneous impression that the sale of spare parts for the Olympus engine to the Argentines was illegal. There was, as a result, some understandable confusion on the part of the defendants, civilian witnesses and the police witnesses as to what Bain was or was not authorized to do with the manual.

Chief Technician Owen took the view that he had only "authorized" Bain to use the manual for the purpose for which Bain had, falsely, said he was borrowing it and that Bain was, therefore, not authorized to pass on the manual to Galvin.

That was not the real issue in the case.

The true question for the jury was — leaving aside the feeling that this information should not have been used for the benefit of the Argentines, and leaving aside what Owen thought he was authorizing — whether the MoD by disseminating the manual and the information contained in it as widely as they had already done and without restriction as to its further use, had or might have impliedly authorized any one who came into possession of it to make such use of it as that person saw fit.

That was a question of fact for the jury. As the evidence stood the jury might have decided the point either way. There was certainly sufficient evidence to justify their finding that there was no such implied authorization.

The judge was correct to reject the submission of no case.

The case that remained was whether the jury were given a

sufficiently clear direction on the point in issue. Their Lordships hastened to say that the judge had their sympathy. He was faced with the unenviable task of trying to explain the sections in a way which the jury could understand and he was relying on the way in which the prosecution had advanced their propositions. Their Lordships did not criticize him in any way.

The result was, however, that everything was said to hinge on what Owen authorized Bain to do and on how Owen wanted any dissemination of his manual to be restricted. On that basis the result was a foregone conclusion.

A proper approach was for the jury to inquire whether they were sure that the MoD had not by their actions impliedly authorized the general dissemination of the document to any one who might be interested. What Owen himself might have thought was only a part of the evidence and was not the governing factor.

That was a fatal misdirection. It was agreed on all hands that the same considerations applied to the conspiracy count as applied to the other count.

The result was that the appeal had to be allowed and the convictions on each of the two counts had to be quashed.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Warwick.

## Rent application was valid

**Staines Warehousing Co Ltd v Montague Executor & Trustee Co Ltd**

Before Lord Justice Fox, Lord Justice Nourse and Sir Denys Buckley [Judgment April 30]

Where, for the operation of a rent review clause, the lease required the determination of the open market rent by a surveyor to be nominated by the President of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors upon the application of the landlord to be made not later than three months before the relevant rent review date.

By paragraph 6 "if the landlord... shall neglect to make [the application] then any notice already given by the landlord to the tenant" of an intention to review the rent should be void and of no effect.

It was common ground that time was of the essence for the purposes of paragraph 6.

No agreement having been reached between the parties on the review rent, the landlord's agents wrote to the president on May 30, 1984, saying that they were making, in accordance with the schedule, "an in time only application for the appointment by the president of an expert surveyor to determine a revised rent for the... premises at September 29, 1984", the relevant rent review date.

The tenant was not informed of the letter and remained in ignorance of it until after the expiry of the time limit prescribed in paragraph 3.

In December the agents signed the RICS form issued for

**The River Rima**

Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Nourse and Lord Justice Woolf [Judgment May 1]

Containers leased to a shipowner which were normally delivered direct to shippers for stuffing under a leasing agreement which contained no provision that they should be loaded on to vessels belonging to the shipowner were not "goods... supplied to a ship for her operation" within section 20(2)(m) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 so as to render a claim against the shipowners for damages for conversion and breach of contract in relation to the containers maintainable as an action *in rem*, nor was the claim within section 21(4) of the Act.

The Court of Appeal so held (Lord Justice Nourse expressing no view as to the effect of section 21(4)) in giving reasons for having allowed, on April 13, an appeal by the owners of the *River Rima*, Nigerian National Shipping Line Ltd, against the refusal by Mr Justice Sheen on April 3 to set aside a writ *in rem* issued by the plaintiffs, Tiphook Container Rental Co Ltd, and discharge the arrest of the *River Rima*.

Mr Richard Aikens, QC and Mr Lionel Persey for the ship-

owners; Mr Jonathan Sumption, QC and Mr Mark Haggood for the plaintiffs.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the jurisdiction of the Admiralty Court was governed by sections 20 and 21 of the Supreme Court Act 1981. The shipowners owned a number of vessels capable of carrying containerized cargoes. They had a number of contracts whereby they leased containers from their owners including one with the plaintiffs.

That specified various depots throughout the world at which containers could be picked up and redelivered. It was wholly silent as to the use to be made of the containers, whether by land or by sea.

Mr Justice Sheen had held that the court had no jurisdiction under section 20(2)(m), which was now accepted, but that paragraph (m) did give the court jurisdiction, the containers being "goods... supplied to a ship for her operation". Accordingly he had dismissed an application for the writ to be set aside and for the arrest of the vessel to be discharged.

As there was no clear connection between the containers and the *River Rima* the plaintiffs were driven to argue that the

use in connection with the application and paid the required fee.

In those circumstances, the tenant contended that the judge was wrong to hold that the letter to the president was an application within the terms of paragraph 3.

So far as the procedures of the RICS were concerned, there were no formalities laid down, except that the application was required to be in writing. Thus, for the purposes of the institution, there was no reason why the letter could not be regarded as an application.

The only effect of the fee not being paid was that the application would not be processed until it was paid. In commercial terms, it was perfectly sensible to make an application which was not to be processed immediately when there was a chance that the parties might reach a settlement.

The proper conclusion in all the circumstances was that the landlord made the application in due time within the terms of the schedule.

Lord Justice Nourse delivered a concurring judgment and Sir Denys Buckley agreed.

Solicitors: Berrymans for Duggan Lea & Co, Birmingham; Nabarro Nathanson.

effect of section 6 of the Interpretation Act 1978 was to cause paragraph (m) to be read as "any claim in respect of goods or materials supplied to a ship or ships for her or their operation or maintenance" and that it accordingly did not matter what ship or ships were involved, or that they might not have been owned by the shipowners.

That was not necessarily correct, because the presumption that words in the singular included the plural only applied "unless the contrary intention appears".

Assuming that was correct, the plaintiffs still had to bring themselves within section 21(4) of the 1981 Act.

Applying that section one asked in connection with what ships the claim arose. The answer had to be "ships in the ownership of NNSL or other ships in different ownerships by which the containers have been or are to be carried under bills of lading naming NNSL as shippers". The answer to the question whether NNSL was, when the cause of action arose, the owner or charterer of or in possession or control of those ships was "Probably, but not necessarily". That was insufficient to justify the application of section 21(4), without which the issue of a writ *in rem* and the consequential arrest could not be upheld.

Further, it had to be shown that the containers were leased to NNSL for the operation of their ship or ships. In a broad sense that was true. But it could equally and more cogently be said that the purpose of supplying containers was to meet the convenience of shippers by providing them with ready made packaging for their goods, which had nothing to do with the operation of the ship.

Consistently with the strict approach in *Gatell International Inc v Arkwright-Boston Manufacturers Mutual Insurance Co* ((1985) AC 255) the leasing agreement must be held to be not sufficiently directly connected with the operation of ships to enable it to be said that the containers were supplied by the plaintiffs for the operation of a ship or ships.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE, agreeing, said that each case had to be considered on its own facts in order to see whether the claim was in respect of goods or materials supplied to a ship for her operation or maintenance. The containers could not fairly be said to have been "supplied to a ship".

His Lordship preferred to express no view as to the effect of section 21(4) of the 1981 Act.

Lord Justice Woolf agreed with the Master of the Rolls.

Solicitors: Hill Dickinson & Co, Liverpool; Allen & Overy.

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## US NOTEBOOK

## Double edge to Fed's open policy

From Maxwell Newton, New York

The importance of the Federal Reserve Board's decision to come out into the open on its monetary policy was not only that the central bank decided it must do something serious to impress the currency markets. There was also an implied judgement that the domestic US economy would have to be sacrificed in the larger interest of preventing a world financial collapse.

The radical nature of the Fed's new policy was most clearly enunciated in the rise of the federal funds rate from 6 1/4-6 1/2 per cent in April to 7 1/2-8 per cent.

This is a major change indicative of an underlying decision to curb and even contract the banks' reserves which have been under very tight control since January. As of the week ended April 29, the adjusted monetary base (banks' reserves plus currency) was \$260.3 billion (\$155.3 billion), compared with a level of \$259.9 billion in the week of January 28.

If a federal funds range of 6 1/4-6 1/2 per cent had been sufficient to freeze the growth in reserves, what will be the consequence of funds at 7 1/2-8 per cent? The impact of the progressive tightening of Fed policy that has been in force for most of 1987 (non-borrowed reserves plus extended credit having changed little since the third week of December 1986) has been disguised by the action in the currency markets.

As the move by those shorting the dollar (led by the cash-rich Japanese) has gathered momentum, the effect has been to depress US bond prices. The dollar shorts have sold out long positions. The Japanese have led the march.

The resulting dollar proceeds have been sold to foreign central banks. These banks, the Bank of Japan in the van, have been buying dollars furiously and investing the proceeds in US Treasury bills.

This, along with a move inside the United States into shorter positions by

worried American money managers, has meant bond prices have been depressed while Treasury bill yields have remained low.

Thus, between March 27 and April 29 the 90-day Treasury bill rate fell from 5.61 per cent to 5.54 per cent while the 10-year Treasury note yield rose from 7.34 to 8.28 per cent.

Now that the dollar has been accorded top priority, both implicitly and explicitly, by the Fed, there will tend to be a counter-reaction. It will be less profitable to unload US bonds. They now offer a high nominal yield compared with Tokyo and Frankfurt. The gap is about 500 basis points. Even though it may be argued that US inflation is accelerating and hence anticipated US real rates are considerably less than the nominal rates, this is not necessarily a deterrent to a foreign holder of dollars.

The foreign holder of dollars is interested in US inflation mainly insofar as it affects the exchange rate. And if the dollar is to be stabilized at

the expense of the domestic US economy, then the foreigner has all the assurance he needs.

For the Germans, the concern about the dollar ended in mid-January, since when the dollar-mark rate has been stable. For the Japanese, the advent of a stable dollar-yen rate, which the Fed and the White House have effectively guaranteed, opens up the prospect of vastly higher yields in New York.

As Japanese money now surges back into the medium and longer-term bonds, there will be a markedly smaller rate of accumulation of dollars by the Bank of Japan and other central banks. This in turn will tend to depress Treasury bill prices.

The higher funds rate may thus be expected to affect short-term yields more than has been the case during the big bear run on the dollar. As short-term yields rise towards the funds level, Mr Paul Volcker, the chairman of the Fed, may not be able to hold to the leaked plan not to raise the US discount rate.

## COMMENT

## The British economy secretly changes gear

The economy has moved into a new and rather interesting phase.

Gone, for the moment, is the consumer spending boom. Indeed, we are enjoying, if that is the word, something of a savings boom at present.

Gone too are worries about the balance of payments with Friday's announcement of a £175 million current account surplus in March — the third positive figure in a row. And the Chancellor believes the economy is performing better than he dared hope when putting together the Budget six weeks ago.

To really assess what is happening, we need to equip ourselves with Smith's two laws of economics.

The first law is quite straightforward. It is that, whichever party is in power, the economy tends to look better when an election is coming up.

The second law helps to explain why the Confederation of British Industry is so happy about the state of its members' order books and why there is all this talk of a new industrial renaissance in Britain. This is that devaluation works — as long as you have not planned it.

To see how these laws apply to the present situation, we need to jog back a few months to the autumn of last year.

Then, it may be remembered, everyone was talking about the pause in economic activity that had followed the fall in oil prices. And the only growth area in the economy, it appeared, was consumer spending, which was sucking in imports at an alarming rate.

However, something had happened which was to change the picture more than anyone realized. This was sterling's depreciation, most notably against other European currencies.

Sterling's fall, from a level of DM4 in mid-1985 to well under DM3 by last autumn was not part of some grand strategy cooked up at the Treasury.

It was, rather, mainly a side effect of the dollar's fall, which benefited the mark, dragging up the other European Monetary System currencies with it, as well as the yen.

Had the dollar not been weak, Britain could not have risked allowing sterling to fall so much because of the damaging effects on inflation, although it is difficult to see what could have been done to stop sterling from falling over that period.

Fortunously though it was, the pound's fall has had a significant and surprisingly swift effect on Britain's external

accounts. And the battles have been won this year, not on some foreign field, but at home.

There was an immediate jump in export volume of 5 per cent between the third and fourth quarters of last year but since then exports have been flat, hit by slow growth in Europe.

But the substitution of domestic for imported goods has been the feature this year. It may be a straw in the wind, but in March more than 50 per cent of cars sold in Britain were made in Britain for the first time in nearly 10 years. After rising by 3 per cent in the fourth quarter of last year, import volumes fell by 8 per cent in the first quarter of this year.

Therefore, strictly speaking, we are not talking about an export boom. And we are certainly no longer talking about a consumer boom — there has been no real increase in consumer spending since the middle of last year.

Instead, home produced goods are taking a bigger share of what is a stable level of consumer demand, although other demand components, notably government spending and investment, have been rising.

Economists have long been used to predicting British imports by thinking of an outrageous number for the marginal propensity to import, and then doubling it.

And so the sight of British manufacturers clawing back market share has, understandably, come as something of a shock, even if it may mainly reflect the switching of production from the Continent by multinational companies, seeking to take advantage of the present pattern of exchange rates.

Consumer spending should pick up later in the year as the tax and mortgage rate cuts come through. Retailers are talking of a very good April. The experience of the past few months suggests this extra demand should not result in an explosion of imports, as long as sterling is not allowed to appreciate too much.

The pound, at DM2.98, is already almost 10 per cent up on the low point reached over the winter. This was the thinking which lay behind last Tuesday's surprise reduction in base rates to 9.5 per cent.

The Bank of England may have to allow more base rate cuts, and probably one this week, to prevent a strong pound from marring an encouraging picture.

David Smith

Economics Correspondent

## GILT-EDGED

## Election will spur sterling rush

Changes in base rates tend to come as a surprise these days. The pre-Budget cut came when the Government had given every indication — and the markets had begun to believe it — that absolutely nothing would shift base rates until the Chancellor had dispensed the Budget's good news. And the base rate drop in the Budget's immediate wake was limited to a mere half-point when, emboldened by the post-Budget euphoria engendered by the especially low public sector borrowing requirement target, most thought that a full percentage point was going to be sanctioned.

The timing of last week's cut was no exception to this new-found tendency for surprise: nobody expected the go-ahead to lower rates to be given so soon. Indeed, some discount houses, members of a fraternity that makes a high-risk living by second-guessing the authorities' actions in the money markets, dealt with the Bank of England at the old rates only moments before the cut was officially signalled. If they cannot discern what is going on, what hope have the rest of us?

What probably made the Government move earlier than expected was the extent

to which huge official intervention in the foreign exchange markets was having only limited success in holding sterling down. Whether this is true or not will be revealed by the official reserve figures for April, due out tomorrow. These are expected to show that the Bank sold \$2 billion of sterling last month — yet the currency still went up.

In recent years, the Bank has been compelled by circumstances to become especially adept at grappling with a falling currency. Now it is in the unfamiliar position of not being able to hold an appreciating pound in check. And this is a situation likely to persist for a while yet.

The world — especially its champion savers, the Japanese — has become saturated with dollar-denominated assets. In addition, the dollar, last week's Japanese interest rate promise notwithstanding, remains vulnerable, and in present circumstances sterling looks an exceptionally promising alternative bet. The markets are increasingly convinced that an early election is imminent and that the Government will be easily re-elected, and this accounts for sterling's recent strength. However, an actual election announcement will set the seal of certainty upon this and

provoke a further strong inflow into sterling. The magnitude of such flows is likely to dwarf intervention, rendering it of only limited use, and base rates are likely to come down again to stop sterling going above DM3.00.

The lower base rates are driven the more reluctant the Government will become to allow the process to go further, particularly as external pressures may increasingly come into conflict with the domestic monetary position. The now-discarded sterling M3 is still growing at only a shade below 20 per cent, and other measures of money, both broad and narrow — with the exception of the Chancellor's favourite, M0 — are also rising at an uncomfortably robust pace. Indeed, the sunny prospect of lower base rates may arouse fears that the famous "glacier" of liquidity will begin to melt.

The starting point is pay settlements of 6-7 per cent — and underlying earnings growth of 7 1/2 per cent — which have resulted both in strong consumers' expenditure and an underlying inflation rate above that of our main competitors.

In the latter respect, we reckon that Britain's "core"

inflation rate lies in the 4-5 per cent region — reflecting trend productivity growth of 2 1/2 per cent. And it is difficult to see how a third-term Conservative administration will be able to reduce significantly the underlying inflation rate, let alone achieve the promised land of zero inflation. Both these developments imply a balance of payments problem — and a structural one at that — sooner or later.

While these considerations argue for a degree of caution longer-term, it is difficult to be other than very optimistic about the near-term outlook. Already the markets are partially discounting a June election victory for Mrs Thatcher, and the actual announcement will be greeted with enthusiasm here, and more importantly, overseas, where the liquidity lies. Accordingly, worries about the current account and inflation will be put on one side — especially in the light of the good trade figures published on Friday, and last week's CBI survey finding that cost pressures have recently seen some slackening. Instead, with political optimism riding high, the pound strong and short-term rates under downward pressure, all will be subsumed in euphoria.

In the pre-election period

long yields will have to go through two barriers if there is to be a sustained improvement. One is the 8 1/2 per cent yield level that was the peak of the market in April last year, which the market failed to breach just after the Budget. If yields fall below this level then the market will be regaining territory last occupied in the early 1970s.

The other — albeit volatile — barrier will be the yield on US bonds. Although gilt yields were below those on long US Treasuries as recently as 1985, there will be some resistance to this happening again.

Nevertheless, a still weaker dollar and strong pound argue strongly in favour of a re-evaluation.

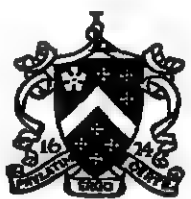
In the pre-election period, foreign demand for gilts could push long-dated yields down to 8 1/2 per cent, which is likely to be the upper limit on the market for the time being. Immediately after the election, however, time horizons will lengthen dramatically as attention focuses on the Conservatives' policies in the third term.

Ian Harwood and John Shepperd

The authors are economists with Warburg Securities.

## EDUCATIONAL

## PREP &amp; PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LATYMER UPPER SCHOOL  
HAMMERSMITH, LONDON, W6 9LR  
APPOINTMENT OF HEAD

The Governors of the Edward Latymer Foundation at Hammersmith, invite applications for the post of Head of Latymer Upper School, which will become vacant in September, 1988 upon the retirement of M.L.R. Isaac Esq., MA.,

Particulars of the Appointment and an application form may be obtained from:

The Clerk to the Governors  
Latymer Upper School  
King Street  
Hammersmith, London, W6 9LR

Applications should reach the Clerk to the Governors by 3rd June, 1987.

HAMPTON SCHOOL,  
Hanworth Road,  
Hampton,  
Middlesex TW12 3HD

The Governors invite applications for the post of HEAD which will become vacant at the start of the Summer Term 1988 on the retirement of Mr. H.G. Alexander.

Hampton School is an independent boys' day school with 840 pupils of whom 240 are in the Sixth Form. The present head is a member of the Headmasters' Conference.

Details of the appointment are available from the Clerk to the Governors at the School. Applications must be received by Tuesday 2nd June, 1987.

## Q.E.D.

EDUCATIONAL  
RECRUITMENT  
CONSULTANTSTEACHER OF CHEMISTRY  
- Sept. '87

With Experience and Enthusiasm for active and innovative dept. of a highly regarded CATHOLIC BOARDING SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

The successful candidate will teach throughout the school to A Level and O-levels.

Science is given TOP PRIORITY. Broad new SCIENCE CENTRE (5 labs) will be in operation - Sept. '88.

Salary: Main Scale 2

TELEPHONE OR SEND LETTER OF APPLICATION IMMEDIATELY WITH CV, AND THREE REFERENCES TO: Q.E.D.

Teachers requiring posts in INDEPENDENT Schools (Prep and Public), can in London, S.W.2. England are invited to apply or telephone for details. Q.E.D. Ltd. No. SE91A.

FRAMLINGHAM COLLEGE  
Woodbridge, SuffolkAppointment of  
BURSAR

The Governors wish to appoint a Bursar and Clerk to the Governors, who should be available to start not later than the beginning of January 1988, and preferably earlier.

The successful candidate is likely to be aged between 35 and 50. Full particulars of the appointment and an application form may be obtained from:

The Secretary to the Governors, Framlingham College, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 9EY.

Completed applications should reach the College by 8th June, 1987.

## ST. NICHOLAS' SCHOOL

Prest, Hampshire

Required for September 1987 a Graduate to teach General Science (Science up to GCSE level). This is a full time post (Scale 1) teaching small classes in a well equipped modern laboratory block with technical support.

Applications enclosing a full CV and stating subjects offered to the Headmaster together with the names of two referees.

This is a re-advertisement.

ALSO

Required for September 1987 Teacher of Physics up to A Level and Maths up to O Level. Scale negotiable.

Applications enclosing a full CV and stating subjects offered to the Headmaster together with the names of two referees.

For further details contact the Headmaster.

Westminster Abbey Choir Voice Trial

Boys with musical ability who are aged between 7 1/2 and 9 1/2 will be eligible to enter the next Voice Trial on TUESDAY, 30 JUNE 1987. As boarders in the Abbey Choir School (IAPS), successful candidates will be given a full preparatory school education. Present fees, £340 per term inclusive.

Write (stating date of birth) for prospectus and application form to:

The Headmaster, Westminster Abbey Choir School, Dean's Yard, London SW1P 3NY.

Which school for your child?

Our expert counselling covers every aspect of education, from preparatory to finishing schools, from finance to educational psychologists. We counsel parents on a personal basis - advice is free and objective.

Truman & Knightley

Continued on next page

## THE PERSE SCHOOL

Cambridge (H.M.S.)

A graduate will be required in September 1987 to teach English up to University Entrance level and to be a resident in the school boarding house. Applicants should send a CV.

The Headmaster, The Perse School, Hills Road, Cambridge

giving full particulars of qualifications, experience, salary expectations and references, as well as a statement of why you are applying to this school.

Applicants should also send a letter to the Headmaster stating why they are applying to this school.

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## ST DUNSTON'S COLLEGE

Canford, Dorset DT9 4TY

(HMC Independent Day School for Boys aged 7-19)

Required for September 1987

GRADUATE MODERN LINGUIST

to teach FRENCH across the entire secondary age range; a willingness to teach Latin or English would be an advantage.

Full participation in the College's extra-curricular activities expected. Own salary scale above Inner London. Burnham; scale dependent upon qualifications and experience. New entrants to teaching will be seriously considered.

Further details of the post obtainable from the Headmaster to whom application should be made, enclosing C.V. and naming two referees, by 11th May 1987.

Applicants should also send a letter to the Headmaster stating why they are applying to this school.

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## MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

CROSBY

APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE POST OF HEAD

which becomes vacant from 1st September 1988 upon the retirement of the present Headmaster

Mrs M.E. Davies I.P., B.A.

There are 560 girls in the School, including a Sixth Form of 120 and a Junior School of 250. The School participates in the A.P.S. Scheme.

Salary: Table G School Group 11 minimum.

Full particulars may be obtained from:

The Clerk to the Governors, Merchant Taylors' School, 186 Liverpool Road, Crosby, Liverpool L23 9QP

Closing date for applications: Friday 29th May 1987.

Applicants should also send a letter to the Headmaster stating why they are applying to this school.

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## THE OLD MALHOUSE

Langton Matravers

Swanage, Dorset BH19 3HB

HEAD

The Governors of The Old Malhouse invite applications for the post of Head which will become vacant in September 1988 or possibly sooner.

Applications with curriculum vitae and the names of two referees should be sent to The Bursar by Friday 22nd May, from whom further details may be obtained.

Applicants should also send a letter to the Headmaster stating why they are applying to this school.

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the Saints into errors, and the man of the match, the Australian full back, Eddie, saved two certain tries.

The Halifax wingers, George, scored the first try, set up in the left-hand corner by Stephens and Scott, although the touch judge had to advise the referee that the St Helens winger, Lodge, hit the corner flag and was offside.

The Irishman, the Trillickian, McCullion, the second when he enterprisingly dived over from a play-the-ball, and Whitfield kicked two goals against a solitary penalty by Loughlin.

After Murphy's half-time re-

lief and onslaught, St Helens roared back immediately. In the first minute of the second half, Ellis took a pass from Platt inside his own half and scorched away for a magnificent try, leaving Eddie for dead as he outpaced him on the outside. Longchill kicked the goal. However, Loughlin put the game beyond reach when a beautiful move from a set piece saw Pendlebury's long pass send the surging Eddie past two tackles for a great try. Whitfield kicked the goal, and after continuing Pendlebury dropped a mark.

Halifax seemed on their way to victory until Neller's rush of blood to the head and a finish in

which St Helens so nearly dashed the cure from the lips of the Yorkshiremen.

There were one or two least-pleasant incidents after the game, with Murphy's reaction to the referee and a further incident in which the St Helens reserve coach, Chismail, and the Halifax substitute forward, Juliff, exchanged angry words and blows when Juliff proffered his hand in conciliation.

However, there was a heart-warming finale to the day when the St Helens players, cheered and bitterly disappointed, lifted their heads to take their own lap of honour, which was loudly

applauded all round the ground by both sets of supporters.

Halifax, too, took a salute at both ends and the game's reputation for sportsmanship on and off the field was maintained. The attendance was 91,267, grossing £11,099,206.

**SCORES:** Halifax Tries: George, Stephens, Scott, McCullion.  
Dropped goal: Pendlebury. St Helens: Tries: Ellis, Loughlin, Round. Goals: Loughlin.  
**HALIFAX:** E. Gledhill, C. Whittell, G. Rix, W. George, C. Anderson, D. Stephen, J. Mulvey, S. Hoggins, M. Hailey, M. Scott, P. Dobson, J. Pendlebury.  
**ST HELENS:** P. Vennart, B. Lodge, P. Longchill, A. McCullion, J. Neller, N. Holding, A. Burke, G. Lipsett, J. Parkinson, A. Platt, R. Higginby, C. Armstrong.  
**Referee:** J. Holdsworth (Oxford).











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By Our Newmarket Correspondent  
1.45 Stambo 3.15 Summerhill Dams. 2.45  
1.45 Cavalcade. 3.45 Glincium. 4.15 Kadra.  
4.45 Inscripton. 5.15 Street Legal.

Going good to firm Draw: 51-1m, low numbers  
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1.45 LEVY BOARD APPRENTICE HANDICAP  
(£1,061.50) (20 runners)

2.15 E & F PRIMROSE MAIDEN FILIES STAKES  
(£2,423.50) (11)

2.45 RADIO W H HANDICAP (£2,402.10) 1m 6f 150yd  
(10)

3.15 WARWICK SPRING HANDICAP (£2,178.1m  
2f 170yd) (20)

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# Alysheba survives rough passage in Kentucky Derby

Alysheba, who had scored only once in ten previous outings, came good at the right time in the £17,973 Kentucky Derby, at Churchill Downs on Saturday.

He won by three-quarters of a length from Bet Twice, but nearly fell after being hampered when challenging the final rival approaching the final furlong.

It was a first Derby victory for his trainer, Jack Van Berg, for his rider, Chris McCarron, second on British-trained Bold Arrangement last year, and for his sire, Alydar, runner-up to Affirmed in all three legs of the Triple Crown in 1978.

Alysheba, who paid \$18.80 to a \$2 stake for a win dividend on the Pari-Mutuel, was one of the worst sufferers

in a rough race as the hard-pulling War, kept hitting the rails on the first turn, as well as twice brushing with Bet Twice in the straight.

Demons Begone, who started favourite, was another casualty. He was involved in the bumping on the first bend and pulled up early in the back straight with broken blood vessels.

The early running was made by last year's champion juvenile, Capote, and his stable-companion On the Line but they were headed by Bet Twice approaching the far turn.

The outsider Avie's Copy ran on to be third, 2½ lengths behind Bet Twice, while Cryptoclearance overcame difficulties to be fourth.

# Super Furrow proves too strong for Gee-A

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

Super Furrow achieved sweet revenge when beating the English challenger, Gee-A, and Hazy Sunset, in the £125,000 Avonmore National Hunt Championship Cup, yesterday.

A fortnight ago, Super Furrow had lost the Power Gold Cup in a controversial finish with the Jimmy FitzGerald-trained Tickle Boo. On that occasion, he had been hampered by the season's favourite, Fairhouse, and subsequently on appeal, decided not to alter the result.

With the safety factor limited to 20 and 21 declared to run, the Irish Championship qualifier, the Tickle Boo, was split into two divisions. Both races produced thrilling finishes.

There was a ding-dong battle between Wayward Kate and Ivy Royal in the first and when Wayward Kate hung left after the last fence it looked as if Alistair Ulyett had been presented with the race.

Graham Godsell had other ideas, however, and swooped with the fast-finishing Silver

Point-to-point by Brian Beel

Design to pass them both and by half a length.

Following his Worcestershire win, Graham Godsell was made favourite for the second division. He took the lead at the 14th fence but Tim Stephenson had to work very hard to keep him ahead on the run-in as Duncan Fox challenged.

The last of The Times qualifiers takes place today at the West Street. The Ashford Valley maiden winner, Singing Kettle is my choice.

Results from 11 meetings

1. Chavante; 2. Camade; 3. Little Harry Adair; 4. Penman's Son; 5. Roadster; 6. Paddy; 7. Paddy; 8. Paddy; 9. Paddy; 10. Paddy; 11. Paddy; 12. Paddy; 13. Paddy; 14. Paddy; 15. Paddy; 16. Paddy; 17. Paddy; 18. Paddy; 19. Paddy; 20. Paddy; 21. Paddy; 22. Paddy; 23. Paddy; 24. Paddy; 25. Paddy; 26. Paddy; 27. Paddy; 28. Paddy; 29. Paddy; 30. Paddy; 31. Paddy; 32. Paddy; 33. Paddy; 34. Paddy; 35. Paddy; 36. Paddy; 37. Paddy; 38. Paddy; 39. Paddy; 40. Paddy; 41. Paddy; 42. Paddy; 43. Paddy; 44. Paddy; 45. Paddy; 46. Paddy; 47. Paddy; 48. Paddy; 49. Paddy; 50. Paddy; 51. Paddy; 52. Paddy; 53. Paddy; 54. Paddy; 55. Paddy; 56. Paddy; 57. Paddy; 58. Paddy; 59. Paddy; 60. Paddy; 61. Paddy; 62. Paddy; 63. Paddy; 64. Paddy; 65. Paddy; 66. Paddy; 67. Paddy; 68. Paddy; 69. Paddy; 70. Paddy; 71. Paddy; 72. Paddy; 73. Paddy; 74. Paddy; 75. Paddy; 76. Paddy; 77. Paddy; 78. Paddy; 79. Paddy; 80. Paddy; 81. Paddy; 82. Paddy; 83. Paddy; 84. Paddy; 85. Paddy; 86. Paddy; 87. Paddy; 88. Paddy; 89. 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# TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

## Fraysn's Berlin flashback

● Michael Fraysn's superb documentary, *Imagine a City Called Berlin* (BBC2, 10.00pm), gets a welcome repeat as part of the BBC season devoted to the art and culture of Germany. First shown in 1974, and a companion piece to an equally absorbing Fraysn programme on Vienna, it picks up threads from the Berlin of today to evoke the city in its Imperial glory before the First World War. Most programmes of this sort rely on a combination of talking heads and archive film. Fraysn makes plentiful and effective use of both but he also goes beyond the familiar to explore, for instance, how the life of the city has been recorded by artists. This is, essentially, a personal view. Like John Betjeman and James Cameron, Fraysn is one of those rare television

performers who can transcend the apparatus of the medium and come across fresh and unaffected. It is a pity he does not visit the small screen more often. ● *The Corner House* (Channel 4, 9.30pm) is a new sitcom about a greasy spoon café run by a left-wing gay called Gilbert whose hates include royalty and South African fruit. The first episode also introduces Gilbert's assistant, Dave, who is having girl-friend trouble, and an attempt by a fire officer (also gay) to close the place down. Christopher Eymard and Robert Llewellyn, who wrote the show, play Gilbert and Dave. I am not sure what they are getting at.

Peter Waymark

● Peter Davalle writes: Moliere's *The Miser* (Radio 4, 3.00pm) is tremendous fun, tailor-made for holiday listening whatever the Day, May or Christmas. The adaptation is the familiar one by Miles Malleon, now nearly 40 years old yet still as bright and sharp as a new pin. Not Moliere to the letter, perhaps, but the spirit is left intact and director Peter Kavanagh drives the action along as if his life depended on it. Is there, I wonder, any comedy of manners that thrives more vigorously on misconception than Moliere's *L'Avare*? The production is faultlessly cast, from Michael Horden's old skinflint (who shares with Scrooge the honour of being the most full-blooded miser in fiction) to Christopher Godwin's polymorphic menial.



Michael Horden: he plays the title role in Miles Malleon's version of Moliere's *The Miser*, on Radio 4 at 3.00pm



Brandenburg Gate: one of the famous landmarks visited by Michael Fraysn in *Imagine a City Called Berlin* (BBC2, 10.00pm)

- BBC1**
- 6.00 Ceefax AM, 6.55 Weather.
  - 7.00 Breakfast Time. National and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.
  - 8.40 Cartoon Double Bill, 8.55 Regional news and weather.
  - 9.00 News and weather 9.05 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time 9.30 Neighbours. (r)
  - 10.00 News and weather 10.05 Children's BBC. Andy Crane with programme news, and birthday greetings 10.10 Play School.
  - 10.30 Film: *A Girl for Heidi* (1958) starring Sandy Descher. A young orphan learns the meaning of the three wooden figures given to her by the Alpen village woodcarver. Directed by George Templeton 11.40 Film: *Dot and the Bunny*. An animated feature film, set in the Australian bush. Directed by Yoram Gross. 12.55 Regional news and weather.
  - 1.00 One O'Clock News with Maryn Lewis. Weather. 1.25 Neighbours. Drama serial set in a Melbourne suburb 1.50 Hockey Cadey. (r) 2.05 The Pink Panther Show. (r)
  - 2.25 Film: *Waterloo* (1970) starring Rod Steiger, Christopher Plummer, and Orson Welles. The story of the great French general from the time of his exile on Elba to the Battle of Waterloo. Directed by Sergei Bondarchuk. (Ceefax)
  - 4.35 Bugs Bunny's Mad World of Television. (r)
  - 4.55 Final Score.
  - 5.00 International Circus Gala from the Battersea Big Top. With, from England, the Eight Nevada, a wild west act from Spain, high-speed juggling from Asia and 12.10 Weather.

- BBC2**
- 6.55 Open University: Learning and Doing Maths. Ends at 7.20.
  - 8.55 The Week in the Lords. A repeat of yesterday's programme of highlights of the week's proceedings in the House of Lords.
  - 9.35 Ceefax.
  - 10.00 You and Me. For four- and five-year-olds. (r)
  - 10.12 Ceefax.
  - 10.20 Film: *The Kid With the 200 L.C.* (1983) starring Gary Coleman. A made-for-television story about a 13-year-old university student where he meets his idol, an astronomy professor. Directed by Leslie Martinson.
  - 12.00 Ice Skating. The Skate Electric British Challenge, from Streatham, London.
  - 1.00 News at One with David Cass.
  - 1.05 Film: *Ben and Me* (1953) An animated Walt Disney story about a poor church mouse.
  - 1.30 Film: *Spartacus* (1960) starring Kirk Douglas, Laurence Olivier, Jean Simmons, Charles Laughton, and Peter Ustinov. Spectacular epic about a Thracian who builds an army of fellow gladiators to take on the might of the Roman Empire. Directed by Stanley Kubrick.
  - 4.55 News and sport.
  - 5.10 The A-Team. The resident quartet are hired by a mysterious woman to help her reclaim her father's title to an African diamond mine. Starring George Peppard. (r)
  - 6.05 What's My Line? Eamonn Andrews presents another round of the odd occupations quiz. With George Gale, Barbara Wiles, Jilly Cooper, and Ernie Wise.
  - 6.35 Crossroads.
  - 6.55 World Snooker. The closing session of the final of the Embassy World Professional Championship, introduced by David Vine.
  - 10.00 *Imagine a City Called Berlin*. Michael Fraysn's documentary in which he attempts to recapture the glories of Imperial Berlin behind the ruins and rebuilding of the city in the present day. This hour does from pieces of the Imperial City still to be seen, Berliners' recollections, and by paintings recording the life of the city. (r)
  - 10.55 *Dead Young in Concert*. Highlights from a concert recorded especially for the BBC at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. (r)
  - 12.10 Open University. Cragside. Ends at 12.40. N.B. programme times after the snooker are approximate.

- ITV/LONDON**
- 7.00 TV-am: Wide Awake Club Bank Holiday Special presented by Timmy Mallett, Arabella Womersley, and James Baker.
  - 9.25 Film: *Avantgarde* (1975) starring Michael Portman and David Rindland. Drama about a young man, on a school skiing holiday, who despite warnings, decides to climb the Elphi mountain, bringing along his reluctant room-mate. Directed by Frederic Good.
  - 10.20 Film: *The Kid With the 200 L.C.* (1983) starring Gary Coleman. A made-for-television story about a 13-year-old university student where he meets his idol, an astronomy professor. Directed by Leslie Martinson.
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- Channel 4**
- 1.15 Film: *Fancy Pants* (1950) starring Bob Hope and Lucille Ball. An out-of-work British actor is hired as a butler to a rich woman living in New Mexico. But he is mistaken for an earl and has to keep up the pretence when the President arrives in town. Directed by George Marshall.
  - 3.00 Channel 4 Racing from Kempton Park. The Union Jack Stakes (3.10); the British Car Auctions Jubilee Stakes (3.40); and the Blackhorse Car Auctions Graduation Stakes (4.10)
  - 4.30 Countdown. Friday's winner is challenged by Tony Cook of Alnwick, Northumberland.
  - 5.00 Hogan's Heroes. Vintage American comedy series about a group of resourceful Allied prisoners-of-war.
  - 5.30 The Abbott and Costello Show. Lou has to find a 'wife' in order to be eligible for a \$10,000 gift.
  - 6.00 Painted by Numbers. Decorating With a Difference. Part two of the series on do-it-yourself home decorating. (r)
  - 6.30 Listening Ear. Magazine programme for the hearing impaired.
  - 7.00 News summary and weather followed by Twenty Twenty Vision: A Sitter Harvest. A documentary about a British-funded oil palm plantation in Mindanao, in the Philippines which originally used a paramilitary death squad as security guards. These guards were accused of terrorising the local people. After questions were asked in the Commons, the owners undertook to improve conditions. Have they kept their word?
  - 8.00 Brookside. Pat and Terry begin their campaign to fight eviction.
  - 8.30 Chateaufort. The French language version of episode 14 of the drama serial about two rival families in a Loire Valley town. (subtitled)
  - 9.30 The Corner House. The first of a new comedy drama series starring Christopher Eymard and Robert Llewellyn as a corner cafe owner and his over-enthusiastic assistant. (see Choice)
  - 10.00 Film: *Je Vous Salue, Marie* (1982) Jean-Luc Godard's controversial modern-day version of the nativity story, set in Switzerland with Mary as a teenager working in her father's garage.
  - 10.15 *Je Vous Salue, Marie*. A short film studying the break-up of a marriage as seen through the eyes of the couple's 11-year-old daughter.
  - 12.00 Don't Eat Today, or Tomorrow. A Dutch-made film about the economic troubles of Argentina. (r) Ends at 12.40.

- Variations**
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  - 12.00 Don't Eat Today, or Tomorrow. A Dutch-made film about the economic troubles of Argentina. (r) Ends at 12.40.

- Wales**
- 12.10 News. 12.15 News. 12.20 News. 12.25 News. 12.30 News. 12.35 News. 12.40 News. 12.45 News. 12.50 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.05 News. 1.10 News. 1.15 News. 1.20 News. 1.25 News. 1.30 News. 1.35 News. 1.40 News. 1.45 News. 1.50 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.05 News. 2.10 News. 2.15 News. 2.20 News. 2.25 News. 2.30 News. 2.35 News. 2.40 News. 2.45 News. 2.50 News. 2.55 News. 3.00 News. 3.05 News. 3.10 News. 3.15 News. 3.20 News. 3.25 News. 3.30 News. 3.35 News. 3.40 News. 3.45 News. 3.50 News. 3.55 News. 4.00 News. 4.05 News. 4.10 News. 4.15 News. 4.20 News. 4.25 News. 4.30 News. 4.35 News. 4.40 News. 4.45 News. 4.50 News. 4.55 News. 5.00 News. 5.05 News. 5.10 News. 5.15 News. 5.20 News. 5.25 News. 5.30 News. 5.35 News. 5.40 News. 5.45 News. 5.50 News. 5.55 News. 6.00 News. 6.05 News. 6.10 News. 6.15 News. 6.20 News. 6.25 News. 6.30 News. 6.35 News. 6.40 News. 6.45 News. 6.50 News. 6.55 News. 7.00 News. 7.05 News. 7.10 News. 7.15 News. 7.20 News. 7.25 News. 7.30 News. 7.35 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